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East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-164 *24 August 1992*

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Japan Presents Plan To Break Cambodian Stalemate

Envoy To Talk With Khmer Rouge, Thais

OW2208080992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0703 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Bangkok, Aug. 22 KYODO—A senior Japanese official is in Bangkok preparing for talks with the Khmer Rouge amid signs the faction may be moving to rejoin Cambodia's peace process.

Tadashi Ikeda, head of the Asian Affairs Bureau of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, arrived Friday and is to meet Sunday with Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, with the Thai Foreign Ministry's Deputy Permanent Secretary, Sarot Chawanawirat, also attending.

Ikeda brings a plan to try to break a deadlock between the Khmer Rouge and the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Cambodia, according to Japanese Foreign Ministry officials.

At Sunday's closed-door meeting, he will likely propose setting up an administrative advisory committee under the Supreme National Council, Cambodia's largely symbolic body of national reconciliation representing all four warring factions, they said.

Ikeda also may propose establishing a committee to verify Vietnam's claims that it has withdrawn all troops from Cambodia, the officials said.

THE BANGKOK POST reported Sunday's meeting is expected to center on the Japanese initiative, but a Thai official declined comment.

The Khmer Rouge, militarily the strongest of the three factions opposing the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government, has refused to disarm and demobilize its troops under a U.N.-brokered peace plan.

It demands verification that Vietnam has withdrawn and more working authority for the council, with the Phnom Penh government ceding some control.

The U.N. mission has threatened to seek a U.N. Security Council boycott against the faction if the impasse is not resolved by the end of the month.

Meanwhile, there have been some signs of progress in efforts to reel the Khmer Rouge back into the peace process. Agreements have been worked out in recent weeks, with others being completed, a Thai security source said this week.

"The Khmer Rouge won't miss the boat, we are sure," the Thai official said. "Its concerns do have a point, and the others should try more to understand their thinking and address their concerns in a prejudice-free manner."

The source said, "We need to work out some face-saving device for the faction in order to have it join the process."

For example, he said, the Khmer Rouge has agreed to join a "mobile unit" of representatives of all Cambodian factions and the U.N. mission to visit areas suspected of holding Vietnamese forces.

The Khmer Rouge had rejected the idea of such a unit, citing technical problems, when it was suggested at a June conference on Cambodia in Tokyo.

Also, a report from Cambodia said several Khmer Rouge units were preparing sites for troop demobilization camps.

Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin also met with Sarot and Khieu Samphan in Bangkok early this month, but no details of the meeting were available.

Thailand Endorses Japanese Plan

BK2208035592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Aug 92 p A1

[Text] Thailand has endorsed Japan's plan to set up a new mechanism to strengthen Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) and will jointly present it to the Khmer Rouge on Sunday, according to informed sources.

The Thai-Japanese effort is aimed at convincing the Khmer Rouge to disarm and adhere to the peace plan for Cambodia.

The proposal was drawn up by Japan after the Tokyo meeting on the reconstruction of Cambodia at the end of June and subsequently revised and improved by Thailand in the past weeks.

Sources, who asked not to be identified, said that Thailand has received support from Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin during a recent meeting here with Thai officials.

Thailand has been coordinating diplomatic efforts by Japan and China to persuade the Khmer Rouge to join the crucial stage of the United Nations brokered peace plan, which calls for cantonment, disarmament and demobilization of the forces of the four main Cambodian factions.

Tadashi Ikeda, director of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, will join Sarot Chawanawirat, deputy permanent secretary for foreign affairs, in discussing the new proposal tomorrow with the Khmer Rouge leader, Khieu Samphan.

Sarot is scheduled to arrive in Bangkok from Samui Island, where he is attending a two-day discussion on Thai-Lao relations, on Sunday afternoon.

The venue has been kept secret, sources said. At first, the meeting was to take place at the Foreign Ministry.

The Japan-Thailand proposal calls for the creation of an administrative consultative body, known as the ACB, to work with the SNC which represents the sovereignty of Cambodia and comprises representatives of the four Cambodian factions.

The ACB was developed from the 11-point unofficial proposal presented to the four Cambodian factions at the Tokyo conference.

The new body will tackle administrative tasks and ensure the neutrality of administrative actions, but would not touch on policy matters, which will be handled by the SNC and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac).

The sources are optimistic that the Khmer Rouge will respond positively to the Thai-Japan plan, which is aimed at addressing the Marxist group's major concern that the SNC is not powerful enough to run day-to-day activities in Cambodia.

The ACB will have the same composition as the SNC, with representatives from Untac. Nine concerned countries, including the five-permanent members of the UN Security Council, will be allowed to send to ACB meetings one observer with the right to speak.

That will be permitted on a rotational basis in alphabetical order. The countries involved are Australia, China, France, Indonesia, Japan, Russia, Thailand, Britain and the United States.

The idea was aimed at cutting down the number of representatives of concerned countries during ACB meetings, which will be convened on a regular basis. In previous SNC meetings, Cambodian factions complained that non-Cambodian delegations interfered and diverted their discussions.

Tripartite Talks Held 23 Aug

BK2408025792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Aug 92 p 6

[Text] Khmer Rouge [KR] leader Khieu Samphan headed for Phnom Penh yesterday after receiving for consideration a Japanese initiative aimed at breaking the impasse in the Cambodian peace process, well-informed sources said.

Tadashi Ikeda, director-general of the Japanese foreign ministry's Asian affairs bureau, had flown into Bangkok from Tokyo to present to the Khmer Rouge a proposal for strengthening the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia.

Mr Khieu Samphan, who had come from guerrilla-held territory inside Cambodia, put forward the Khmer Rouge's latest position, which drops mention of previous demands for the dismantling or depoliticising of the Phnom Penh regime, but insists that "all power and means" be conferred on the SNC to fulfil its mandate under the Paris Peace Agreement.

The Khmer Rouge have refused to comply with the crucial disarmament phase, which was activated on June 13 and has been joined by the three other factions represented in the SNC.

Japan is preparing to send troops to participate in non-combat activities of United Nations peacekeepers in Cambodia.

Mr Ikeda, Mr Khieu Samphan and Deputy Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Sarot Chawanawirat engaged in lengthy talks at the Thai Foreign Ministry on Saturday night.

Mr Sarot said the talks took place in a "good atmosphere" and affirmed that more discussions were expected.

Mr Khieu Samphan was reported to have left Bangkok yesterday morning for Phnom Penh, where he was expected to attend a meeting of the SNC scheduled to take place today.

The Japanese proposal calls for the setting up of an "administrative consultative body" which would perform an advisory function to the SNC in matters of civil administration.

The Khmer Rouge proposed the setting up of "consultative committees of the SNC" to assist the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) in its tasks of "control and or supervision" of existing administrative structures and police forces.

The guerrillas' latest position, the text of which was released yesterday, marks a firming up of the July 12 proposal which launched the idea of consultative committees.

In addition, the guerrillas stress the need for representatives of all four Cambodian parties to be "associated" with the process of regrouping and cantonment of their armed forces.

They continue to insist on:

—Verification of the departure and assurance of the non-return to Cambodia of Vietnamese forces; and,

—"Appropriate measures" to enable the SNC to fulfill its mandate as the "unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia" during the transitional period.

They recall that Mr Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN Secretary-General and head of UNTAC, had "recognised" at an SNC meeting in Siem Reap on August 5 that there should be no government in Cambodia during the transitional period.

A month earlier, UNTAC announced that it had assumed, since July 1, "direct control" over five key ministries dealing in foreign affairs, national defence, finance, public security and information.

At the same time, UNTAC was placed in "optional control" over other areas of civil administration, including public health, education, agriculture, fisheries, communications and tourism.

Plan 'Failed To Persuade' Khmer Rouge

OW2408000192 Tokyo KYODO in English 2344 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Bangkok, Aug. 24 KYODO—The head of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau has apparently failed to persuade the hardline communist resistance faction of the Khmer Rouge to rejoin the Cambodian peace process, Tadashi Ikeda told reporters Sunday.

In a meeting with Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, Ikeda proposed a mediation plan of setting up an administrative advisory committee under the Supreme National Council, a national reconciliation body, in a bid to urge the Khmer Rouge to agree to disarmament and demobilization of its troops, Ikeda said.

Khieu Samphan, however, avoided giving a direct answer to the plan, saying he will inform his faction of the plan and give it serious consideration, Ikeda said.

He disclosed that he was not able to break a deadlock between the Khmer Rouge and the UN peacekeeping mission in Cambodia at this time.

Ikeda told reporters that he cannot predict the Khmer Rouge's answer to the plan, adding Japan will continue talks with leaders of the Khmer Rouge as well as Thailand.

Khieu Samphan gave details of the Khmer Rouge's latest proposal that demands verification that Vietnam has withdrawn from Cambodia as well as more working authority for the council with the Phnom Penh government ceding some control.

Japan plans to dispatch engineering troops of the Self-Defense Forces to Cambodia in October to participate in UN peacekeeping operations.

Meeting Ends 'Inconclusively'

BK2308043592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Aug 92 p A1

[Text] The tripartite meeting of Thai and Japanese officials with the Khmer Rouge over proposals for a new administrative mechanism for Cambodia to break the impasse in implementing the UN peace process ended inconclusively last night after more than four hours of talks.

The meeting discussed Japan's proposed administrative consultative body (ACB) to work with Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) and the Khmer Rouge's proposal that consultative committees be formed to supervise Phnom Penh's key ministries, but failed to make any progress.

According to Japan's proposal, which won endorsement from Thailand, the ACB would handle administrative tasks and ensure the neutrality of administrative actions, but would not touch on policy matters and military affairs. These will be handled by the SNC and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Japan came up with the proposal to address the Khmer Rouge's major concern that the SNC, which represents the sovereignty of Cambodia and comprises representatives of the four Cambodian factions, is not powerful enough to run day-to-day activities. Earlier yesterday, the Khmer Rouge announced its own proposal calling for the formation of consultative committees to be located within the core structures of the existing administration—meaning the Phnom Penh government—and in the police forces of all Cambodian factions.

"These consultative committees will help the United Nations in its task of controlling and/or supervising the existing administrative structures and police forces of all Cambodian parties in order to create ... trust between the Cambodian parties and to realize a true national reconciliation and a neutral political environment," it said.

Thai and Japanese officials held a meeting at the Foreign Ministry, with a Khmer Rouge delegation led by Khieu Samphan, from 7.30 pm to 11 pm last night to discuss the feasibility of the two proposals.

Khieu Samphan said after the meeting that texts of the two proposals were compared, but he would not give any further details.

Japan

Full Discussion of U.S. Facility Removal Urged

OW2108123092 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 21 Aug 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "Is There No Other Alternative Than Moving to Naha Naval Port?"]

[Text] It is reported that the Japanese Government and U.S. side have already reached an accord on moving the Seamen's Club from the Onoyama Park in Naha to the Naha Naval Port in connection with the Prefectural Martial Arts Hall [PMAH] project. Unless decisions are made soon, the construction of the PMAH will fall behind schedule. However, is it "reasonable" to move the facility to the Naha Naval Port while we are still waiting for the return of the port itself? Although we do not intend to oppose the flexible stance, we wonder whether there are any other ways to deal with the issue. It is urged that further and fuller discussion on the issue should be held.

The PMAH will be constructed at the original site of the Prefectural Gymnasium in the Onoyama Recreation Park after its removal. This is one of Okinawa Prefectural Government's major projects to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the reversion of Okinawa to the mainland. Since the Seamen's Club of the U.S. forces is located at the site for the planned PMAH, discussions have been held on moving the facility to other places.

The Prefectural Government originally requested the U.S. side to withdraw the facility. However, it has never changed its policy to move the facility. Although many candidate sites, including the Makiminato Supply Depot Area in Urasoe city, were proposed, it has been finally decided that the facility will be moved to the premises of the Naha Naval Port.

Since the project is expected to start in the next fiscal year, there is a time limit for securing the site for the project. In this connection, it is reported that the Prefectural Government intends to reach an accord with the Naha City Government on moving the facility to the port.

The PMAH project, one of the major projects to commemorate the 20th anniversay of the reversion, should be promoted as scheduled. For this purpose, a little concession should be permitted. It is understandable why the Prefectural Government has decided on taking a flexible stance on this issue.

Nevertheless, an accord has been reached on the return of the Naha Naval Port under some conditions. The Prefectural Government has worked out a plan to utilize the original site of the Naha Naval Port, and has demanded that the entire port should be returned as soon as possible. Nevertheless, if the government should approve the plan of moving another facility—even if a small one—to the port, it may cause serious troubles in the future.

The Seamen's Club is used as a welfare facility for U.S. military servicemen and civilian employees. Meanwhile, the Naha Naval Port has been left unused for a long time.

As for welfare facilities, is it not advisable to study the project in connection with plans for readjusting and improving other welfare facilities as a whole?

Naha Mayor Kosei Oyadomari takes the position of "resolutely opposing the increase of U.S. military facilities because of his demand for the return of the whole naval port." In the meanwhile, he has also indicated his strong intention to have the PMAH completed in the Onnoyama Park.

The harsh decision to make now is to deal with the issue in a "flexible" way or to insist on the "justifiable" demand.

Groups Demand Suspension of Live-Fire Exercises

OW2208102792 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 22 Aug 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] On 20 August seven reformist groups and political parties called on the prefectural government to work on the offices concerned to stop live-fire exercises by U.S. Marines and to suspend construction of a P3C transmission station by the Maritime Self-Defense Force [SDF]. The U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa is scheduled on 25 August to conduct another live-fire artillery exercise across Prefectural Highway 104.

The organizations strongly protested the live-fire exercises, saying: "They are conducting exercises twice this August—the month when we are praying for the peace of the world. This is an act of trampling on the wish of the prefectural people." They also said: "With the cold war over, tension is being eased throughout the world. We cannot understand the construction of new facilities by the SDF. The construction is creating inconveniences in the life of the local people." Meanwhile Asamitsu Takayama, director of the governor's Executive Office, told the groups the prefectural government "has requested the U.S. forces stop the exercises."

The protests were filed by representatives of the Prefectural People's Congress To Safeguard the Constitution and Oppose the Security Pact; the Association To Oppose Atomic/Hydrogen Bombs of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] and the Japan Communist Party [JCP]; the General Council Center for Okinawa Trade Unions; the United Action Liaison Council; the Prefecture Peace Committee; and the SDPJ and the JCP Okinawa chapters.

Protesting the live-fire artillery exercises conducted on the Camp Hansen Training Ground in Kin-cho, during which Prefectural Highway 104 is blocked, the representatives of these organizations said the prefectural government must file a demand with both the Japanese and U.S. Governments to immediately suspend the exercises. The groups pointed out in their protest that: 1) six battery positions—the largest number so far—will be

used in the forthcoming exercise; 2) this exercise goes against the post-cold war trend of the world; and 3) such exercises hurt the environment of the Hokubu area and expose to danger the life and property of the local residents.

In response, Executive Office Director Takayama said the prefectural government has asked the U.S. forces and the Defense Facilities Administration Bureau to stop the exercises. He explained: "We have notified them that such live-fire exercises on this small island of Okinawa are dangerous; they are causing the destruction of nature, accidents as a result of dud shells, and problems with the tourism industry. We have made our request in a manner stronger than before." He added: "Even though the U.S. forces insist the exercises are necessary, they appear to be studying if these exercises can be reduced or removed to a different training ground."

On the issue of a P3C transmission station being constructed in the Toyohara District of Motobu-cho, the organizations called on the prefecture to stop the construction, saying: "The construction is disrupting the farming as well as the peaceful life of the local people. The government or the Defense Agency are ignoring the wish of the people, and such a way of doing things must not be tolerated." They also called on the prefecture not to accept proposals to abolish some local town-maintained roads.

Yeltsin's Chief of Staff Arrives for Visit

OW2208035392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0333 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin's Chief of Staff, Yuriy Petrov, arrived in Japan on Saturday for a five-day visit to lay groundwork for Yeltsin's planned trip in September.

On Tuesday, Petrov will meet with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe to prepare for the Russian president's September 13-16 visit, Foreign Ministry officials said.

During his stay, he is also scheduled to hold talks with former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, as well as with Tamisuke Watanuki, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and Foreign Vice Minister Hisashi Owada, they said.

Tokyo Stand on Northern Islands Issue Confirmed

OW2208080292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0730 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Otawara, Tochigi Pref., Aug. 22 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Saturday he will renew Japan's claim of sovereignty over four Russian-held islands during his forthcoming trip to Moscow.

"I will not depart from Japan's principles" on the territorial row, Watanabe said in a speech here. "I have no intention to unilaterally cave in."

Watanabe is scheduled to visit Russia next Saturday for six days and is expected to talk with President Boris Yeltsin on September 1 or 2.

While terming his visit to Russia timely, the foreign minister said, "I will not rush. It is imperative to search for a solution based on law and justice."

The Soviet Red Army seized the islands of Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai Islets from Japan at the end of World War II. Japan demands the return of the islands off Hokkaido as a prerequisite for massive financial aid and conclusion of a bilateral peace treaty.

On Yeltsin's efforts to introduce democracy and a market economy, Watanabe expressed Japan's readiness to offer economic cooperation through such international bodies as the international monetary fund, as agreed at the Munich Summit in July of the world seven major economic powers.

But Watanabe brushed aside the possibility of Japan extending unilateral economic aid to Russia unless the territorial dispute is resolved.

Referring to Japan's participation in United Nations peacekeeping efforts abroad, he said the U.N. may have to set up its own force in the future and that Japan should cooperate with it in some fashion.

He expressed hope that a study group could be formed to study the constitutionality of Japan joining such a U.N. force.

Japan is preparing to join the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Cambodia, under a law enacted in June authorizing the dispatch of troops abroad to join U.N. peacekeeping efforts.

Japan's largest opposition party, the Social Democratic Party, argued during parliamentary deliberations that the legislation violates the pacifist Constitution, which renounces the use of force to settle international disputes.

Commenting on economy-spurring measures, Watanabe said financial institutions need such assistance as the easing of land taxes and active intervention by the Bank of Japan.

Of the now-burst "bubble" economy of the 1980s, marked by sky-high stock and land prices, Watanabe said, "it is not everything to blame financial institutions."

The foreign minister also said the government should iron out and implement a large-scale economic stimulus package soon, saying, "If the government makes up its mind, weathering the current crisis is a piece of cake."

Hokkaido, Russia To Establish Joint Committee

OW2108111092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1050 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Sapporo, Aug. 21 KYODO—The prefectural government of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island, will form a joint standing committee with Russia to promote economic exchanges between the island and the Russian Far East, local government officials said Friday.

The two sides will sign an agreement on the committee at its first session September 3, when a Russian delegation visits the prefectural capital of Sapporo, the officials said.

The committee will draw up concrete programs to enhance public and private economic cooperation between Hokkaido, the Russian Maritime Territory, the Khabarovsk region, and Sakhalin.

The programs are expected to list 65 projects such as a trainee program for Russian bankers and telecommunications experts, know-how transfer for forestry machine production, and joint exploitation of coastal marine resources, the officials said.

Technical Reactor Center Planned in Russia

OW2408082292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0804 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—Japan will build a technical center adjacent to a nuclear power station in Novovoronezh, Russia, as part of its effort to improve safety, officials of the Natural Resources and Energy Agency said Monday.

The agency, an arm of the International Trade and Industry Ministry, chose the location because the plant is typical of the former Soviet Union's pressurized water reactors (PWRs), they said.

The site, located some 400 kilometers south of Moscow, was also a logical choice since it has an adjoining consolidated training center for the reactors.

Ministry officials and representatives of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd., and other private companies will visit Russia early next month to hammer out the details, they said.

The ministry expects to complete the deal in time for Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Japan September 13-16, they said.

The new technical center will be equipped with simulation control boards for third-generation PWR-100 reactors used in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, they said.

Training will also be provided for handling accidents, they added.

The ministry plans to appropriate 2.05 billion yen from the fiscal 1993 budget for installation of a powerful computer for the simulators, the officials said.

It also intends to earmark 1 billion yen for other machinery and equipment in the center out of the fiscal 1994 budget so that training can begin there in 1995, they said.

Improving the safety of Soviet-designed nuclear power plants was one of the stated aims in the economic declaration issued by the Group of Seven industrialized nations at their July summit in Munich.

Japan has therefore promised to set up the center with a 25 million dollar grant, they said.

The United States is also considering building training centers in Balakovo, Russia, and Ukraine, they added.

MITI To Insure Joint Ventures With Russia

OW2108130492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 21 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry has decided to provide investment insurance coverage for Japanese firms involved in two new joint ventures in Russia, ministry officials said Friday.

The insurance will cover 945 million yen (about 7.5 million dollars) invested in the Vladivostok-based international telecom firm Vostoktelecom Co. by KDD, an international communications giant, and Nissho Iwai Corp., a major trading house, the officials said.

It will also insure 216 million yen (about 1.7 million dollars) put up by the Saison group to construct office buildings for foreigners in Moscow, they said.

The ministry first set coverage last October of 1.8 billion dollars for trade and investment with Russia, they said.

With a total of 15 projects, the combined amount of investment in Russia covered by the insurance now comes to 2.12 billion yen (about 16.8 million dollars), they said.

Further on Emperor's Planned Visit to PRC

OW2308063992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0623 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—The government is scheduled to officially decide Tuesday on Emperor Akihito's proposed visit to China in late October, government sources said Sunday.

The formal decision on the historic visit commemorating the 20th anniversary of normalized Japan-China relations is expected at a cabinet meeting Tuesday morning, the sources said.

Following the decision, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will issue a statement to explain the meaning of the emperor's visit to China and to seek public understanding of it, they said.

Emperor Akihito's visit to China will be the first by a Japanese emperor in the long history of exchanges between the two countries.

It also will be the first imperial trip to a northeast Asian country which bore the brunt of Japan's aggression before and during World War II.

Tokyo and Beijing soon will begin discussing the details of the itinerary for Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, the sources said.

In preliminary meetings, officials already have planned for the imperial couple to travel October 22 to 27 to Beijing, Xian and Shanghai, and meet Chinese officials, including President Yang Shangkun, they said.

The government is considering naming a former Japanese prime minister, such as former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, to go along as chief attendant for the imperial couple, the sources said.

Chinese Premier Li Peng had unofficially extended an invitation to Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko when he visited Japan three years ago.

Chinese leaders have since repeatedly asked the imperial couple to visit their country.

Miyazawa Hopes for Successful Sino-ROK Talks

OW2208090392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0844 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa expressed hope Saturday that South Korea and China will succeed in their talks to establish bilateral relations.

Miyazawa, speaking to reporters at his summer retreat in Karuizawa, Nagano Prefecture, was commenting on a South Korean announcement that Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok will visit Beijing Sunday to discuss rapprochement between South Korea and China.

"At this stage, I can only say that I hope the negotiations will come to a successful conclusion," Miyazawa said.

In Otawara, Tochigi Prefecture, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe welcomed reports that China and South Korea will establish diplomatic ties.

"I believe the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and South Korea will contribute to stability in northeast Asia," Watanabe told reporters.

The foreign minister said rapprochement between Beijing and Seoul may affect North Korea's diplomatic stance and may favorably influence talks between Japan and North Korea on normalizing their relations.

Watanabe, visiting Otawara on a speaking tour, said Taiwan may be isolated but urged Taipei to continue efforts to expand economic ties with Beijing.

He said Japan has appealed to both China and Taiwan to join the Asian Development Bank to promote bilateral economic ties.

Watanabe Views Establishment of Sino-ROK Ties

OW2208055692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0538 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Otawara, Tochigi Pref., Aug. 22 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe welcomed reports Saturday that China and South Korea will establish diplomatic ties.

"I believe the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and South Korea will contribute to stability in northeast Asia," Watanabe told reporters.

The foreign minister said rapprochement between Beijing and Seoul may affect North Korea's diplomatic stance and have a favorable impact on diplomatic talks between Japan and North Korea in normalizing their relations.

Watanabe, visiting Otawara on a speech-making tour, said Taiwan may be isolated but urged Taipei to continue efforts to expand economic ties with Beijing.

He said Japan has appealed to both China and Taiwan to join the Asian Development Bank to help promote bilateral economic ties.

More Miyazawa, Watanabe Comments

OW2408033592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0310 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Monday welcomed the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and South Korea earlier in the day, government officials said.

Miyazawa said he hopes the two countries will further expand exchanges in a broad range of fields and that he expects peace and stability in the Asian region will be strengthened following the normalization of Beijing-Seoul ties.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe issued a similar statement welcoming the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Watanabe expressed the hope that expanded exchanges between China and South Korea following the normalization will contribute to the peace and prosperity of East Asia.

Industry on Establishment of PRC-ROK Ties

OW2408142192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1255 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—Japanese industry on Monday offered mixed views about the rapprochement between China and South Korea, with some companies

bracing themselves for fresh competition from South Korean rivals, while others remain calm.

The establishment earlier in the day of diplomatic ties between Beijing and Seoul after four decades of cold war hostility is widely viewed as a catalyst for deeper economic relations.

Some industries feel threatened by the emergence of tough new competitors, especially at a time when they are trying to cement their presence in the Chinese market.

Others expect the entry of South Korean firms will change little or even benefit them by possibly creating additional demand.

The steel industry believes the South Koreans will emerge as major rivals in the coming years, as does the chemical sector, trading houses, and automakers, industry sources said.

South Korea exported about 290,000 tons of steel to China in 1991, almost equivalent to its shipments to Taiwan. Its steel exports leapt 7.5-fold in the first four months of the year from the corresponding period a year before.

South Korean steelmakers are on the lookout for markets amid slumping domestic demand and tense trade relations with the U.S.

One Japanese steel industry official said, "the establishment of diplomatic relations will mark a major advantage for the South Korean steel sector."

Japan's petrochemical industry, which is striving to boost exports to China to make up for decreasing domestic sales, is putting on a calm face, but analysts discern worries underneath.

They said the industry was already uneasy about the recent aggressive exporting drive of South Korean companies, which helped increase exports of main resins such as polyethylene to China in the first five months of this year by as much as 25 times to 136,900 tons, against Japan's 79,000 tons.

Trading houses also reckon they will face competition with South Korean firms in such fields as export of textiles and electrical products, where South Koreans have an edge in price competitiveness, while automakers expect a market share war in the future.

Meanwhile, electrical firms remain neutral or even welcomed likely competition.

"We are confident that our business will not be hampered by competition with South Korean firms," an official of an electrical firm said.

An official of Hitachi Ltd., which has been producing color television sets in China under a joint venture, said diplomatic ties will help cultivate the potential demand for South Korean products in the Chinese market.

Japan's airlines are also hopeful of a possible expansion of air routes between South Korea and China.

A Transport Ministry official said Tokyo-Beijing flights will be about one hour shorter if a direct flight route is introduced between Beijing and Seoul and Japanese airlines can fly it.

Tanahashi: No Major Impact From PRC-ROK Ties

OW2408080892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0641 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24—A senior trade official said Monday he thinks the normalization of South Korean-Chinese ties would have no substantial impact on the East Asian economy as a whole.

International Trade and Industry Vice Minister Yuji Tanahashi said at a press conference that the ties "may have no striking impact," although he expects more active trade between the two nations.

Asked about possible effects on the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) group, Tanahashi said he expects no conflict at the group's plenary session in Bangkok slated for September 10-11.

He said the APEC group has approved "three Chinas"—Mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

Ministry officials said that the political move is unlikely to cause economic changes directly since the group has accepted Taiwan as an area, not as a state.

In the wake of the agreement reached among the United States, Canada, and Mexico on a free trade zone in North America, the session is expected to focus on economic ties within the Asian region, they said.

The officials also denied concern that closer economic ties between South Korea and China could lead to the isolation of Taiwan within East Asian economies.

Taiwan's technological and financial power has attracted China, while the Chinese market appeals to Taiwan, they said.

"No big change may arise as long as the situation stands," one official said.

The officials expected little impact on the Asian region because economic exchanges between Taiwan and South Korea have so far been rather limited.

But the ministry will keep an eye on moves by countries to which Taiwan has offered official development assistance, they said.

Changes in such countries' attitudes toward Taiwan and South Korea could affect regional economic relationships, they said.

Dispatch of Police Units to Cambodia Urged

OW2108131492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1231 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 21 KYODO—The head of the U.N. mission in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, urged Japan on Friday to send civilian police to the war-torn country as soon as possible, Japanese officials said.

The government has said it will send 75 people from the National Police Agency in early October.

In 45 minutes of talks with Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, Akashi also said the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) looks forward to receiving military engineers and ceasefire monitors from Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF), ministry officials said.

Tokyo plans to dispatch 600 engineering troops by the end of October to repair roads and bridges, and by mid-September, eight SDF officers now training in Sweden for ceasefire monitoring.

The U.N. is expected to formally request the dispatch of Japanese personnel for Cambodia by the end of this month.

Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk also welcomed Japan's expected participation in the U.N. mission, Akashi was quoted as telling Koshiro Ishida, chairman of the opposition party Komeito, earlier in the day.

In his talks with Owada, Akashi, who arrived in Japan on Thursday for a weeklong visit, welcomed Japan's plans to send about 50 election monitors to Cambodia early next year.

He said UNTAC plans to hold the elections on schedule in the spring, despite the refusal so far of the Khmer Rouge to disarm and demobilize its troops under a U.N. peace plan.

Owada told Akashi that as the Cambodia operation is Japan's first U.N. peacekeeping venture, it should pay utmost attention to safety to garner public support, the officials said.

They quoted Akashi as replying the dispatch is an important step but that there is no perfectly safe place in Cambodia. But he reportedly noted that no UNTAC member has been killed in hostilities.

Akashi also said UNTAC hopes Japan, China, and Thailand succeed in trying to persuade the Khmer Rouge back to rejoin the peace process, the officials said.

Akashi also held talks with Democratic Socialist Party Chairman Keigo Ouchi.

UNTAC Chief Envisions New Emerging Diplomacy

OW2208122892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1158 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Peacekeeping operations in Cambodia present Japan with an excellent opportunity to drop its old economic diplomacy for an emerging political and diplomatic stance, the head of the United Nations peace mission in Cambodia said Saturday.

Yasushi Akashi, head of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), also suggested U.N.-sponsored elections scheduled for next May be held without the participation of the Khmer Rouge.

In an interview with the KYODO News Service, Akashi said the efforts of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe in passing the controversial U.N. Peacekeeping Cooperation Law through the Japanese Diet have received wide praise overseas.

He also indicated greater expectations for Japan, saying, "This is a good case for Japan to show great energy and a stance that is emerging from economic diplomacy to political diplomacy."

Asked about the Khmer Rouge's continued refusal to disarm, Akashi suggested elections planned for next May would be "very difficult" if the Khmer Rouge does not lay down its weapons by September or October.

But he suggested it would be possible to hold elections with the participation of only three of the four Cambodian factions.

Akashi said U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali may refer to the possibility of a three-faction Cambodian election when he reports to the security council on Cambodia early next month.

Akashi noted that the Phnom Penh government and the two non-Khmer Rouge guerrilla factions control nearly 80 percent of Cambodia's territory and population.

The UNTAC chief also said economic sanctions are being considered against the Khmer Rouge, but added, "I would like to see a peaceful resolution."

"For this reason, 16,000 peacekeeping troops are going," Akashi said. "Strengthening security through the practical application of U.N. peacekeeping activities, patrols, and the strengthening of checkpoints will also serve as a check on the Khmer Rouge faction."

He also said UNTAC hopes to have broadcast stations established by October to help the Cambodian people better understand the UNTAC position.

Akashi said that the U.N. mission may set up and strengthen checkpoints along the Thai-Cambodian border to prevent the smuggling of supplies to the Khmer Rouge from Thailand.

Akashi noted that the area under Khmer Rouge control has sapphire and ruby mines and timber, but said the Security Council would have to consider setting up the checkpoints.

Troops Begin Training for Peacekeeping Mission

OW2408122492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Ono, Hyogo Prefecture, Aug. 24 KYODO—Some 1,080 members of Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) assembled here Monday for a six-day training camp prior to going to Cambodia to join United Nations peacekeeping operations.

The GSDF engineers and rear support members from four bases in as many prefectures will bivouac at the sprawling Aonogahara Garrison post until Saturday, undergoing training in road repair and bridge construction, assignments Japanese troops are expected to assume in their first overseas mission since World War II.

There have been reports that Japanese GSDF personnel may be asked to rebuild highways No. 2 and No. 3, both running southward from the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh.

The start of their training comes a little more than two months after Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's government won Diet approval of a bill that paves the way for Japanese ground force personnel to take part in U.N. peacekeeping missions abroad.

Some 600 men will be picked from those at the garrison post for dispatch to Cambodia.

A formal ceremony marking the start of training was held in the morning while about 50 people took part in a rally in front of the garrison to protest at the planned dispatch of Japanese troops to Cambodia.

Maj. Gen. Akihiko Kurushima, commander of the Fourth Engineer Brigade of the Middle Army, told a news conference that he will complete the formation of the first Japanese contingent to Cambodia either late this month or early next month.

He said, "We will have a great responsibility as Japan's first forces to be sent to Cambodia."

Kurushima said members of the Japanese contingent would do everything they could to contribute to the restoration of war-torn Cambodia and to gain trust abroad.

In an address to the troops before the press conference, Kurushima urged them to carry out their training as "representatives of the GSDF and the Japanese people."

He expressed the hope they would accomplish "outstanding work" that would please the Cambodians.

Although no exact date has been set for their departure, members of the first Japanese contingent are expected to leave for Cambodia in October.

Ship Leaves for France To Transport Plutonium

OW2408010192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0030 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Yokohama, Aug. 24 KYODO—The Japanese-registered cargo ship Akatsuki Maru left Yokohama early Monday morning for France to transport one ton of plutonium processed there from spent nuclear fuel from Japanese nuclear power plants.

The specially converted 4,800-ton Akatsuki Maru is expected to arrive in France in 40-50 days and will likely return to Japan by the end of this year, officials of a group protesting transport of the highly dangerous substance said.

Authorities did not disclose any information on shipment, including routes of the shipment, for security reasons.

Amid protest actions by civilian groups against the shipment of the plutonium, the Akatsuki Maru left the port guarded by some 20 patrol boats of the Maritime Safety Agency.

The Shikishima, the agency's 6,500-ton patrol ship, will escort the first nonstop shipment on the Akatsuki Maru to and from France.

Formerly a British-registered ship, the Akatsuki Maru was previously used to transport nuclear waste in Europe.

Japan plans to ship about 30 tons of plutonium over the next 20 years after it is processed in Britain and France from spent nuclear fuel from Japanese nuclear power plants.

Japanese authorities involved in the secrecy-shrouded shipment project have said the containers designed for housing the plutonium meet safety standards set by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Ozawa Seeks Single-Seat Constituency System

OW2208102492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0924 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Ichiro Ozawa, former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), called Saturday for introducing a single-seat constituency system to general elections for the House of Representatives as a key part of political reform.

Ozawa termed the postwar politics in Japan a "fixed match between the ruling and opposition parties." He went on to say "it is a must to change the system that has fostered the cozy political climate. The most effective way is to fuel discussions (on altering the multiseat constituency system)."

The influential politician made the remarks in a speech in Kagoshima, southern Japan.

"Although every electoral system has its strong points and shortcomings, I presume political reform will find a

way out of the difficult situation through transforming the current medium-size constituency system into a new one," Ozawa said.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa is expected to reveal a sweeping political reform plan in November, but LDP Secretary General Tamisuke Watanuki on Thursday predicted a delay in thrashing out the reform plan.

Touching on the need to change the political system and increase public awareness of the need for a greater international contribution, Ozawa said he was determined to do his utmost to tackle such issues as political reform, decentralization of power, administrative reform and the reform of government organs.

Ozawa, among other things, said it is impossible to build local autonomy and to decentralize authority without changing administrative bodies in Japan, which he said have been preserved since the Meiji period that ran from 1868 to 1912.

Specifically, he said central government agencies and legislators should concentrate on seeking ways for Japan to survive in the international community, while local governments should be given more power and revenue sources to take care of the rest.

Ex-Sagawa Official Allegedly Funded Kanemaru

OW2208043392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0404 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—A former president of now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Co. has said he provided about 2 billion yen to some 10 politicians, including Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) powerbroker Shin Kanemaru, informed sources said Saturday.

Tokyo Sagawa's former president Hiroyasu Watanabe admitted to prosecutors that he gave 500 million yen to LDP Vice President Kanemaru, 77, prior to the 1989 House of Councillors election, the sources said.

Watanabe said that in early June 1989, he handed the money in cash to one of Kanemaru's secretaries in Nagatacho, Tokyo where Kanemaru's office is located, the sources said.

They said they, however, investigation will be continued cautiously because authorities suspect the credibility of Watanabe's testimony.

Kanemaru's secretary rejected Watanabe's allegations about the money, the sources said.

According to the sources, Kanemaru had asked Watanabe sometime around April 1989 for support in the upper house election.

The LDP was in a disadvantageous position in the election because of the introduction of a consumption tax and the recruit stocks-for-favors scandal.

Watanabe prepared the money by manipulating accounts and with off-the-books money he received from Yasuo Matsuzawa, president of the Heiwado Group's medical equipment company, the sources said.

Watanabe reportedly has maintained a very close relationship with Kanemaru, who serves as president of the largest faction within the ruling party founded by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin merged with other companies earlier this year to form the country's third largest trucking company, Sagawa Kyubin Co.

Tokyo Sagawa's former executive officials have been embroiled in a scandal over alleged contributions of more than 500 billion yen in loans and loan guarantees to companies and individuals.

Nagano Urges Creation of Stockholding Concern

OW2108123192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1201 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Fujiyoshida, Yamanashi Pref., Aug. 21 KYODO—The head of the Federation of Employers Associations (Nikkeiren) on Friday urged the creation of a joint stockholding organization to help revive the slumping Japanese stock market.

Nikkeiren President Takeshi Nagano announced a seven-point stimulus proposal, including plans for a stockholding concern, as the organization ended its two-day seminar held near the foot of Mt. Fuji.

The proposal also included appropriating an additional 10 trillion yen for public works spending and another cut in Japan's official discount rate.

The Bank of Japan last reduced its official discount rate by 0.5 percentage point to 3.25 percent per annum July 27.

Nagano said he will present the proposal to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa before August 28, when the ruling Liberal Democratic Party is to complete its version of additional pump-priming measures.

He told reporters that many seminar participants felt the government should do more to boost the economy.

Nagano was the first Japanese business leader to call for the establishment of a joint stockholding organization similar to one established in 1965 during a serious stock market slump.

Akira Yamagishi, chairman of the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), said earlier in the day that the Diet should convene an extraordinary session soon to debate 2 trillion yen worth of tax cuts for wage earners and a large supplementary budget.

He said income tax cuts are needed to end the current slump in consumer spending.

Official Urges Broad Economy Measures Package

OW2108125492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1155 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 21 KYODO—A top Ministry of Finance (MOF) official said Friday he hopes the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's economic stimulus package expected next week will contain a wide range of concrete measures.

"I would like to put as many concrete steps as possible" in a far-reaching package, Vice Finance Minister Mamoru Ozaki said at a press conference. "It would be better if they could be included in the package August 28."

The ruling party is expected to announce the package next Friday, with the government likely to approve it at the end of the month.

On the proposal to establish a company to buy land held by financial institutions as collateral for huge bad loans, Ozaki said it is too early to say whether the government would provide financing.

It is not clear yet whether the financial institutions setting up such a company would ask for official funds, he said.

Largest-Ever Economy-Boosting Package Planned

OW2208084792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0825 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—The Japanese Government will form the largest economy-boosting package ever to salvage the nation from further economic descent, government sources said Saturday.

The size of the package is expected to be about 7 trillion yen, bigger than the 6 trillion yen economic boost of 1987, when Japan was wading through a slump caused by the sharp appreciation of the yen against the dollar, the sources said.

The package will be adopted by the government August 31.

The government hopes to reactivate the slumbering real estate market by spending 1 trillion yen to 1.5 trillion yen on land for public works projects. It also hopes the land purchase will help financial institutions liquidate real estate held as collateral for bad loans, the sources said.

They also said public works spending by the central government is expected to be boosted by more than 3 trillion yen, while local public works spending is expected to be raised more than 1 trillion yen.

The 3 trillion yen in public works spending is to be paid for by issuing construction bonds and by using contracts that result in a treasury obligation. Local spending is expected to be funded through the investment and loans program funds, which mainly come from postal savings.

Funds from the investment and loans program also will be used to boost housing loans and loans to support small- and medium-sized companies.

Watanabe Urges Issuing Deficit-Covering Bonds

OW2308121192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1157 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Utsunomiya, Aug. 23 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Sunday the government has no alternative but to issue deficit-financing national bonds to offset revenue shortages.

Watanabe put forward the proposal to cover an estimated 7 trillion yen of revenue shortfalls for fiscal 1993, starting next April.

Giving a lecture in his constituency, Watanabe, who is also deputy prime minister, said it is the role of politics to help the private sector recover strength at a time of emergency.

Regarding sluggish stock prices, he proposed relaxing land taxes and the Bank of Japan extending loans to financial institutions with stocks as collateral.

He said the 15,000-point level of the Nikkei stock average is too low, adding that it instead should be at the 25,000-26,000 point level in view of the Japanese economy's strong international competitiveness and high productivity.

The widely followed Nikkei average of the Tokyo Stock Exchange finished last week at 16,216.88, up 1,396.63 points from a week earlier.

Miyazawa: No Plans for Deficit-Financing Bonds

OW2408041892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday he has no plans to issue decifit-financing bonds to finance economic stimulative measures to be worked out later this week.

Miyazawa was speaking to reporters at his official residence in reference to Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's remarks suggesting that the government issue deficit-financing bonds to offset expected revenue shortfalls.

"That is not a question now," Miyazawa said.

On Sunday, Watanabe said in a lecture in Utsunomiya, Tochigi Prefecture, that the government has no choice but to issue deficit-financing bonds to make up for revenue shortages.

The government stopped issuing deficit-financing bonds two years ago in an effort to wean the budget from dependence on debt, and since then the Finance Ministry has resisted calls for resumption of the issuance of such bonds.

In a related development Monday morning, a government source told reporters that there is no possibility of issuing deficit-financing bonds right now.

"Do you think the people support it?" the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, asked.

Investment Declines in Smaller Service Firms

OW2408125392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1049 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 24 KYODO—Small- and medium-sized corporations in the commerce and service sectors are reducing their planned capital investment for fiscal 1992 by the steepest rate since fiscal 1986, a government agency said Monday.

The Small and Medium Enterprise Agency said such companies in the commerce sector planned an estimated 1,453.8 billion yen in capital investment as of June 1 for the current fiscal year, ending next March.

The investment represents an annual 9.4 percent drop, said the agency, a suborganization of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

The planned capital investment at smaller firms in the service sector is estimated at 966.2 billion yen, down 5.2 percent.

The results were found in a poll conducted by the agency on 27,000 small- and medium-sized companies on June 1.

By industry, wholesale companies planned a total of 734.2 billion yen in investment, down 14.2 percent from a year earlier—the first double-digit fall since fiscal 1986.

Companies in the service industry also planned to cut investment by about 22 percent from the previous year.

Automobile-maintenance firms, which carried out investment at high levels over the past few years, particularly squeezed this year's investment amid sluggish automobile sales, the agency said.

The agency also reported the actual capital investment in fiscal 1991 at small- and medium-sized companies in the commerce sector declined for the first time in eight years by 3.3 percent from the previous year to 1,605 billion yen.

Investment by service-sector companies amounted to 1,018.9 billion yen, down 2.8 percent for the first drop since fiscal 1985, the agency added.

North Korea

Embassy Declines Comment on PRC-ROK Ties

OW2408031892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0257 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Beijing, Aug. 24 KYODO—The North Korean Embassy in Beijing declined Monday [24 August] to comment on the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and South Korea earlier the same day.

Asked by KYODO NEWS SERVICE if the embassy planned to hold a press conference or issue a public statement, an embassy official said, "there will be nothing," and gave no further comments.

The North Korean diplomat showed his displeasure with the questioning by abruptly hanging up the receiver.

Pyongyang has remained silent on the Sino-South Korea normalization talks held over the weekend.

O Chin-u Meets With Chinese Military Delegation

SK2408133892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Pyongyang, August 24 (KCNA)—Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u today met and had a friendly conversation with the friendship visiting group of the Chinese People's Liberation Army headed by Song Qingwei, political commissar of the Jinan military area.

On hand were major general of the Korean People's Army Yi Chu-ul and Chinese ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi and military attache of the embassy Yin Guangtao.

Ideological Consciousness Enhancement Stressed

SK2408082692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0523 GMT 24 Aug 92

["Fundamental Problems That Must Be Resolved Preferentially After Establishment of Socialist System"—KCNA Headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 24 (KCNA)—The fundamental problems that must be resolved preferentially after the establishment of the socialist system is to guide people to discharge their responsibility and role as the master of the state and society by enhancing their ideological consciousness and creative ability, stresses NODONG SINMUN Sunday.

Dr. Cho Chong-hwan says in his article:

Even though a socialist power has been established and a socialist economic system set up, it is impossible to develop the socialist society at a constantly high rate without the enhancement of the ideological consciousness and creative ability of the popular masses.

Both the socialist economic system and socialist power are run and controlled by people. Apart from the socialist power, the socialist economic system cannot be maintained nor be controlled to suit its nature. And the socialist power cannot be maintained and its function cannot be played to suit its nature apart from people with socialist ideology and creative ability. This means that the decisive factor defining the development of the socialist society and its destiny is, to all intents and purposes, the masses of the people possessed of socialist ideology and creative ability.

The article notes that the idea of the fundamental problems that must be preferentially resolved after the establishment of the socialist system which was propounded by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is an

original idea based on the chuche-based socio-historical outlook and a revolutionary idea that leads the cause of socialism to a constant upswing.

Historical experience, it says, shows that revolution cannot be continued in socialist society and the cause of socialism cannot be carried to accomplishment unless the popular masses are guided to discharge their responsibility and role as the master of the state and society through the enhancement of their ideological consciousness and creative ability.

The ideological revolution and cultural revolution must be powerfully accelerated. If the people are to possess ideological consciousness and creative ability.

Daily Commemorates National Liberation Day

SK2208063692 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 15 Aug 92

[NODONG SINMUN 15 August editorial: "Let Us Further Glorify the Chuche Fatherland With Might of Unity"]

[Text] Today our people are significantly commemorating the 47th anniversary of the historic victory in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, which was organized and led by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and the liberation of our fatherland.

At a time when the socialism of our own style is making a long drive, taking advantage of victory, and when aspirations for national reunification are being enhanced more than ever among the people at home and abroad, we are commemorating the national liberation anniversary. This is indeed a significant event.

Commemorating this day, our people are warmheartedly reflecting on the immortal achievements and labor of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who achieved the national liberation by inspiring our nation's driving forces during the darkest and gloomiest days of the Japanese imperialists' rule. We are further consolidating the determination to carry out the struggle to achieve national liberation in the 1990's along the chuche-oriented road.

The Japanese imperialists' colonial rule was brought to an end in our country on 15 August 1945, and then our people's cause for national liberation was realized. This was indeed an historic event with great significance for our revolution's development and for forging the nation's destiny.

The fatherland's liberation was a precious result achieved by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song by realizing the nation's unity under the banner of the chuche idea and by leading the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: By leading the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle to victory, the Korean communists recovered the nation's sovereignty, which had been deprived of by the Japanese imperialists, and achieved the nation's independence, thus opening a wide road toward building a new society.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song elucidated a unique line to achieve the national liberation with the nation's own strength by taking the chuche-oriented position. He united the anti-Japanese armed ranks and all the Korean people from all social strata with the banner of national liberation. He vigorously organized and mobilized them in the sacred struggle for national liberation.

Under the condition in which our nation had neither a rear area nor support from a regular army, we had to carry out the anti-Japanese armed struggle against heavily armed, atrocious Japanese imperialist aggressors. This was indeed unprecedentedly arduous and a grave struggle. However, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, firmly trusting our people's strength, advanced by overcoming various difficulties and dealt ceaseless blows at the Japanese imperialist aggressors with uncommon military strategy and sagacious tactics.

Upholding the respected Comrade Kim Il-song as the sun of the nation and lodestar of liberation, members of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army [KPRA] and all the Korean people carried out the indomitable heroic struggle in firm unity with the leader. As a result, they finally achieved the historic cause of national liberation by crushing the Japanese imperialist aggressors.

Bearing the destiny of the nation and people on his shoulders when our nation was in the life or death crisis of whether it would survive or perish, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song presented the liberated fatherland to our people after finishing the long way of bloody struggle. Indeed, his achievements are shining forever as immortal historic events.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle realized the great revolutionary tradition; it was a permanent foundation stone enabling our nation and people to achieve independence and prosperity forever. Therefore, this struggle became an even more significant and proud struggle. In particular, the tradition of unity, which was provided in the course of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, became a precious asset enabling us to tenaciously defend and protect the socialism of our own style and to accomplish the cause of national reunification by realizing great national unity.

The 47 years from the liberation to the present form proud annals during which a completely new world was created on the land of the fatherland under the leadership of the party and the leader and the era of great national prosperity and development opened.

Thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who brilliantly led the struggle to build a new nation under the banner of the chuche idea, our nation turned into a

strong socialist country demonstrating the might of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense under any circumstance, and our people who were reduced to the most miserable sufferers became the most dignified and happiest people.

Our fatherland restored by the great leader has now entered a new, brilliant era of opening the door to prosperity, thanks to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's wise leadership.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is carrying on all the revolutionary accomplishments and lines achieved by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, is now activating the enormous operations of socialist construction one after another as intended by the great leader, achieving the unprecedented single-hearted unity among our people and unfolding a more brilliant vista before the socialist fatherland based on its might.

Our fatherland's modern history teaches us a precious truth that only when the people are firmly united around a great leader [yongdoja], upholding him from generation to generation, can they brilliantly navigate the fate of the fatherland and socialist future.

We now face a heavy task to glorify the chuche socialist fatherland even more and to hasten the country's independent reunification. To successfully fulfill this honorable task, it is imperative for all people to cement the single-hearted unity in which the entire population is firmly rallied around the party and leader. It is imperative to defend the national sovereignty based on its might and to bring the superiority of the socialism of our own style into fuller play.

To guarantee the achievement of uninterrupted prosperity in the chuche socialist fatherland, all people should deeply understand the greatness of the party and leader and uphold their leadership with high esteem. All party members and working people should understand the greatness of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's ideology and theories, his leadership ability, and his virtues even more deeply. They should endlessly glorify and infinitely bequeath to the following generations the benevolence and immortal accomplishments of the leader who liberated our fatherland from the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialism and glorified it.

Every single one of the world-renowned miracles and changes unfurled in the fatherland following national liberation was made possible thanks to the embodiment of the chuche idea. All party members and working people should clearly know that thanks to the chuche idea the destiny of the fatherland and people was saved, the cause of socialism of our own style has been firmly defended and safeguarded even in the face of the grave storms of history, and an even more brilliant vista has been unfolded. They should arm themselves with the chuche idea and think and act according to its dictates.

The socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses, which has been established by the great leader and is being glorified by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, is a revolutionary gain attained by blood amid arduous trials. It is also a superior social system that guarantees uninterrupted prosperity for the fatherland and lasting happiness for our people.

All party members and working people should never forget the past when they were exploited and oppressed, no matter how much time may have passed since their liberation from the fetters of the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialism. They should cherish even deeper the pride and self-respect of living under the most superior socialist system.

At a time when the imperialists, not abandoning their wild, aggressive ambitions, are advancing along the road of overseas aggression and subordination, our people should hate the class enemies to the extreme and carry on their tenacious struggle to avoid repeating the colonial slaves' miserable life. This is a class determination that every one of our people should firmly cherish in their hearts.

After activating long-term socialist construction operations designed to glorify the chuche fatherland even more, our party is sagaciously leading it. Our party members and working people should mark still greater upsurges in socialist construction by vigorously carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—upholding the intentions of the party and leader.

We should solidify the foundation of the self-sufficient national economy even more firmly and find solutions to the people's living even more satisfactorily in compliance with the socialist demands by thoroughly embodying the revolutionary fighting verve and the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle highly displayed in the forest of Mt. Paektu during the days of the bloody anti-Japanese battles being fought.

To firmly defend national sovereignty and to vigorously accelerate the socialist cause, it is imperative to establish chuche more firmly in all areas, such as politics, the economy, and culture. Chuche is the life of our people and the revolution. We should maintain the chuche-oriented position in the revolution and construction and think about everything rationally and solve them on our own, according to our country's realities.

Only when we firmly maintain the revolutionary principles and class position in the struggles of all descriptions for the defense of the socialist construction and national sovereignty, without yielding at all, can the chuche cause pioneered in the forest of Mt. Paektu absolutely be consummated.

The near half-century from the 15 August national liberation to today was a fruitful period in which our people brought about monumental progress and prosperity. In the meantime, this was also a period when the

entire nation suffered the pains of division. Our country, which had been filled with joys and deep emotion, was divided by outside forces, and the South Korean people are still today groaning under imperialist, colonial rule. This is a painful tragic situation. Since the first day after the country's division, our party and the government of the Republic have presented correct policies and numerous reasonable proposals to reunify the fatherland and have made every sincere effort to implement these policies and proposals. However, because of the maneuvers by the divisionists at home and abroad to perpetuate the national division, the country's reunification has not been achieved yet.

Reunifying the fatherland is our nation's greatest hope and our urgent task. All the compatriots in the North and South and abroad must further heighten the growing trend toward the fatherland's reunification and launch all-out offensives to fulfill the program for the fatherland's independent reunification, thus making the nineties the era of the fatherland's reunification.

Our party's position on hastening the fatherland's reunification is for our Korean people not to rely on other people but to reunify the fatherland by pooling their strength. All the people who intend to contribute to the fatherland's reunification must thoroughly reject the idea of relying on outside forces, assume a position of national independence, and reunify the country in our style based on the nation's independent forces.

The main force for the fatherland's reunification is all the Korean people, and achieving great national unity is a basic guarantee for the fatherland's reunification. If all the compatriots in the North and South and abroad, in hearty response to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's reunification program, unanimously rise up, our nation can display its greatness throughout the world and achieve the fatherland's reunification.

Compatriots from all social strata in the North and South and abroad, transcending difference in ideas, systems, and religions, must put the nation's common interests above everything else, give priority to the cause of the fatherland's reunification, and achieve strong unity based on love for the fatherland and the spirit of national independence.

To achieve the country's independent reunification, the South Korean authorities must sincerely implement the historic North-South agreement. Because they have promised to pursue a course to achieve the country's independent, peaceful reunification, the South Korean authorities must not rely on outside forces but assume an independent position; abolish all barriers, including the National Security Law, that hinder national reconciliation and unity; release visitors to the North and patriots for reunification who have been detained unjustly, without delay; stop the arms buildup and war exercises; and take other practical measures to guarantee peace in the country. In particular, they must not try to extend the U.S. colonial ruling system even to the North with the wild fancy of absorption and merger but readily accept our just proposal to achieve reunification under a confederal system under which the North and South can live together in a single reunified state.

It is the United States that, since the national liberation, has occupied South Korea for almost half a century, blocked reunification, and inflicted unhappiness on the entire nation. The United States must change its policy toward Korea to comply with the trend of the times and help reunify Korea. It must no longer interfere with internal Korean affairs and must do something good for peace in Korea and its reunification.

The Japanese authorities must sincerely reflect on their having inflicted all forms of unhappiness and pains on our people for a long time, must not commit acts that hinder our country's reunification, must sincerely participate in the DPRK-Japanese talks to normalize diplomatic relations, and must give a sincere apology and compensation for all Japan's crimes.

To vigorously push ahead with the struggle to achieve the fatherland's prosperity and reunification, we must strengthen unity with international revolutionary forces. Our people will strengthen unity and cooperation with the socialist countries under the ideals of independence, friendship, and peace. Our people will also strengthen friendship and solidarity with the people of the nonaligned countries.

Our party is a great guide wisely leading the struggle to achieve the fatherland's boundless prosperity and development and to hasten the fatherland's reunification. When the people across the country follow the great party's leadership, they can overcome any storm, persistently hold aloft the socialist banner, and brilliantly carry out the noble cause of establishing independence across the country.

We, being fully aware that the destiny of the fatherland and the nation and the revolution's future depend on how loyally we will uphold the party's leadership, must vigorously march along the victorious road elucidated by the party. Our fatherland's future is bright, because the party and the leader have great leadership and because our revolutionary ranks which are single-mindedly united around the party are invincibly mighty. Greater victories and honor are ahead of our people who, strongly united around the party and the leader, are vigorously struggling under the banner of chuche to hasten the fatherland's prosperity and development and the cause of reunification.

South Korea

Seoul Establishes Formal Relations With Beijing

'Text' of ROK-PRC Joint Communique

SK2408014692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Beijing, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—Following is the full text of the joint communique on the establishment of

the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China concluded here Monday [24 August].

1. The government of the Republic of Korea and the government of the People's Republic of China have decided, in conformity with the interests and desire of the two peoples, to recognize each other and to establish diplomatic relations as of August 24, 1992.

2. The Governments of the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China agree to develop the enduring relations of good neighborhood, friendship and cooperation on the basis of the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

3. The Government of the Republic of Korea recognizes the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China, and respects the Chinese position that there is but one China and Taiwan is part of China.

4. The Governments of the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China firmly believe that the establishment of the diplomatic relations between the two countries will contribute to the improvement of situation and stability on the Korean peninsula and thus the peace and stability in Asia.

5. The Government of the People's Republic of China, respecting the aspiration of the entire Korean people for an early reunification of the Korean peninsula, supports that the Korean peninsula shall be peacefully reunified by the Korean people.

6. The Governments of the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China agree, in accordance with the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, to provide each other necessary assistance in the establishment and fuctioning of embassies in their respective capitals and to exchange ambassadors at the earliest possible date.

No Tae-u Speaks on Normalizing Ties

SK2408031792 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 0100 GMT 24 Aug 92

["Special talk" by ROK President No Tae-u on the establishment of diplomatic relations with the PRC at Chongwadae in Seoul—live]

[Text] My dear fellow countrymen: I would like to share happiness with you today by informing you that great progress has been made in peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula, and further, in the security and co-prosperity of East Asia.

The ROK and the PRC have agreed to end their long abnormal relations and establish ambassadorial-level diplomatic relations effective today. Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen have signed this morning in Beijing a joint statement on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The two countries will develop durable neighborly, friendly, and cooperative relations based on the principles of the UN Charter, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual nonaggression, mutual noninterference in internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

Our government recognizes the PRC Government as the only legitimate Government of China and has decided to respect the Chinese position that there is only one China and that Taiwan is part of China.

The governments of the two countries believe that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries will contribute greatly to the alleviation and stability of the situation on the Korean peninsula and to peace and stability in Asia.

The Chinese Government made it clear in the joint statement that it respects and supports the Korean nation's desire for peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula in the near future.

The two countries will open their embassies in Seoul and Beijing and exchange their ambassadors at an early date. Along with the agreement to establish diplomatic relations, the ROK and China agreed that it is necessary to hold summit talks in order to develop relations between the two countries. Therefore, at the invitation of Chinese President Yang Shangkun, I will pay an official visit to the PRC in the near future.

My dear fellow countrymen: Korea and China have had neighborly and friendly relations with deep ties as the closest neighbors historically, geographically, and culturally for thousands of years. However, because of very unhappy events in the twentieth century—resulting from the Japanese imperialists' aggression, the cold war, the division of the Korean peninsula, the civil war in China, and the Korean war—the two countries have had unnatural relations without formal diplomatic relations for nearly a century.

There has never been such a long separation in the thousands of years of Korean-Chinese exchange. This abnormal situation not only was a great burden in terms of our security and national interest but was inconvenient and disadvantageous to the peoples of the two countries.

In conformity with the desire and interest of the two peoples, during the past three months the two governments held talks in Seoul and Beijing on establishing diplomatic relations. As a result, it was agreed to link again the spirit of traditional friendly and good neighborly relations.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries was achieved in accordance with the common

understanding of pursuing peace in Northeast Asia. This has historical significance in predicting the end of the cold war system in Northeast Asia, which is the last relic of the cold war era. This also has national significance in that the last external barrier for peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula has been removed.

Through the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries and the holding of summit talks, the ROK and China together will establish a new order in Northeast Asia and will further expand practical exchanges.

Last year the volume of trade between the two countries amounted to $5.8 billion. It is expected to exceed $10 billion this year. China has now become our third largest trading partner. Exchanges of people between the two countries last year alone amounted to 100,000, and this year it is expected to increase to 150,000 people.

Through the expansion of exchanges between the two countries, the interest of reciprocity and cooperation obtained by the people of the two countries will be great. Through the establishment of diplomatic relations between the ROK and China, I am very happy to successfully put the finishing touches on the northern policy that I promised to you, the people, during my inaugural speech and the 7 July statement.

My dear fellow countrymen: Taking into account the significance of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the ROK and China and the deep influence it will have on the Korean peninsula issue, the government has taken more prudent measures than ever before.

During the talks to establish diplomatic relations with China, the government did its best to arrive at the most favorable negotiations for the Korean peninsula's peace and reunification. During the talks, not only was the development of ROK-China relations discussed, but extensive discussions on China's position on and role in the Korean peninsula issue, including North Korea's nuclear issue, took place. Response by the Chinese side was very positive and encouraging.

The Chinese Government clearly revealed in the joint communique on establishing diplomatic relations that it supports the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula, which should be carried out at an early date.

I firmly believe that the establishment of ROK-China diplomatic relations will be of great help in resolving the pending South-North Korean relations and their development, as well as for peaceful reunification and stability on the Korean peninsula.

My dear fellow countrymen: Through the establishment of diplomatic relations with China, it is very regrettable that official relations between Taiwan and us have been severed. This is inevitable, considering the Chinese Government's one-China policy, which it applies without exception, and the reality of the international politics. However, when thinking about the long friendly relations with Taiwan, this measure is very depressing and heartbreaking.

We still remember that during the period of our anti-Japanese movement for independence and during the period of establishing the ROK Government we received a lot of friendly assistance from the Chinese Government and people. The civilian exchange and cooperation maintained so far with Taiwan have been very precious to us. Taking this into consideration, in the course of negotiations with China on establishing diplomatic relations our government has made active efforts not to damage the actual relations between us and Taiwan and informed it of our clear will that, even after diplomatic relations are severed, we will maintain unofficial relations at the highest levels.

Our government hopes that the friendly feelings and the cooperative relations at civilian levels between us and Taiwan will continue for a long time without being affected by the establishment of ROK-PRC diplomatic relations. To this end we will start negotiations with Taiwan soon to establish unofficial relations with it.

Fellow countrymen: With the normalization of ROK-PRC relations all external obstacles blocking our nation's peaceful reunification have been removed. A new chapter in the history of the nation, which should put an end to the history of division, is unfolding before us. No one can take our place in undergoing the pain of division. Likewise, no one can shed the sweat for national reunification in our place.

The cause of national reunification is our own task, not others'. It is a lofty task that our government and people should carry out patiently by pooling their strength and wisdom.

Together with fellow contrymen our government will make efforts so that the establishment of ROK-PRC diplomatic relations and its consequent changes in international circumstances will become valuable assets for the achievement of national reunification. I sincerely hope that the North Korean authorities will also join the road of peace, reconciliation, and genuine great national unity at the earliest possible date in response to the general trend of our times.

Greeting the significant day of establishing diplomatic relations on which the two countries of the ROK and China and the two peoples become genuine neighbors again, on behalf of our people, I extend my warm greetings to 1.2 billion Chinese people. I hope that this date will be remembered forever as the day of the beginning of the new history of peace and prosperity in East Asia. Thank you.

Summit Meeting Reportedly Scheduled

SK2308035692 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 23 Aug 92 p 2

[By correspondent Kim Sung-yong from United Nations Headquarters]

[Text] It has been learned on 23 August that Korea and China have agreed to hold a summit meeting in Beijing in October following the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

A source in the United Nations said: President No Tae-u will visit China in October and hold a summit meeting. It is my knowledge that either President Yang Shangkun or Premier Li Peng will be the Chinese side's participant.

He then said: Since he retired from all government offices in 1989, Deng Xiaoping, China's supreme ruler, has been avoiding meeting with foreign leaders, except for former U.S. President Nixon and Egyptian President Mubarak, with whom he has cultivated personal friendships. So, I find it difficult to expect a No-Deng meeting.

Taiwanese Envoy Reacts to Decision on PRC Ties

OW2308181492 Taipei China Broadcasting Corporation News Network in Mandarin 2300 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Report by Li Ta-hua; from the "Hookup" program]

[Text] Republic of China [ROC] Ambassador to South Korea Shu-chi Chin held a news conference at the embassy yesterday, announcing that the No Tae-u government is making a grave mistake in terminating the long-standing friendship between the two countries and establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists; disregarding justice and the interests of the ROC and Korea; and ignoring Korea's public opinion. He has told Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok that in light of Korea's actions, which ignore the ROC's position, the ROC Government will reserve its legitimate right to take all necessary action. Please listen to Li Ta-hua's report:

Early on the morning of 22 August, ROC Ambassador to South Korea Shu-chi Chin went to South Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to meet Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok. Later, he met with leaders from South Korea's ruling and opposition parties. The ambassador returned to the embassy and has not left there since 0905. At 1400, he called all embassy personnel to a meeting, informing them of the decision made by the South Korean Government to establish diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists; to terminate all official ties with the ROC; and to confiscate embassy properties in Seoul and Pusan, as well as of the all-out efforts made by him to safeguard diplomatic ties between the two countries. At the meeting, all embassy personnel felt sad and were agitated. At 1500, with a very heavy heart, Ambassador Chin held a news conference to discuss the sudden diplomatic change. The news conference was attended by Chinese and Korean reporters. At the beginning of the news conference, Ambassador Chin pointed out that the action taken by the South Korean Government to establish diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists and terminate the long-standing friendship with the ROC disregards justice and the interests of the ROC and Korea and ignores Korea's public opinion.

[Begin Chin recording] The No Tae-u government is making a grave mistake in terminating the long-standing friendship between the two countries and establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists. They are disregarding justice and ROC and Korean interests and ignoring Korea's public opinion. [end recording]

Ambassador Chin pointed out that the South Korean Government has long sought to establish diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists; however, the government has also repeatedly assured him that they would not forget their old friends in making new friends and that they would certainly cherish Sino-Korean friendship. Before this policy change, Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok had also repeatedly assured him that they would respect the ROC's position and inform the ambassador of further steps taken in establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists and that they would do their utmost to maintain high-level (?unofficial) relations after establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists. In addition, the ROC Embassy has also demanded that in establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists, that first South Korea should not recognize the Chinese Communists as the sole legal Government of China; second, our offices in South Korea must have official titles preceded with the name of ROC; and third, our embassy properties should be retained for use by the ROC; however, what the South Korean Government has promised and what it has done are two completely different things. The South Korean Government has repeatedly concealed the facts in the course of establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists. In addition, it has decided to turn over our embassy properties to the Chinese Communists. Ambassador Chin told Korean reporters to their faces that the No Tae-u government's act is despicable.

[Begin Chin recording] In establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists, the South Korean Government has decided to turn over our embassy's properties in Seoul and Korea to them at the same time. This trick, used against a friendly country, a country with long-standing friendship and a country which vigorously supported to you at the time of your independence, is extremely despicable. [end recording]

Regarding the way the South Korean Government is disposing of our embassy properties, South Korea's ruling and opposition parties alike chided it as despicable, saying that it is a communist way of doing things.

[Begin Chin recording] A leader from South Korea's ruling party told me that the government action to confiscate our embassy properties is ruthless and that it is not the Korean way but the communist way. A leader from an opposition

party said that he did not understand how such a despicable act could have taken place. [end recording]

Ambassador Chin said today that the ROC Government will make the necessary response to the decision made by the Korean side.

[Begin Chin recording] I held three rounds of talks with the Korean foreign minister this week. During the talks, I explained to him in full the seriousness of establishing diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists and the strong reaction that he might expect from our government. As I have said just now and in the telephone interview yesterday, we will take all necessary action, and the ROK will have to bear all consequences. [end recording]

The ambassador emphasized that the ROK Government's erroneous decision does not represent the wish of all Korean people. As (Cheng Hung-i), press officer of our Seoul Embassy, pointed out, after the news of South Korea's desire to establish diplomatic ties with the Chinese Communists was leaked on 19 August, all major newspapers in South Korea have published editorials, criticizing their government for breaching faith and making contradictory decisions.

[Begin (Cheng Hung-i) recording] TONG-A ILBO, a leading newspaper in Korea, said in an editorial that the government should explain its diplomatic move to readily accept the Chinese Communist demand to sever diplomatic ties with the ROC, as well as its new stance on relations with the ROC, a friendly nation; and that the government should do everything possible to (?maintain unofficial) relations with the ROC. CHUNGANG ILBO, another South Korean newspaper, also said in an editorial: First of all, it is unreasonable for the Chinese Communists to demand the ROK sever ties with the ROC while they themselves continue relations with North Korea. Second, from the onset of Korea's independence movement, the ROC rendered support and assistance to the Korean people, not to mention that the economically prosperous ROC is a more useful economic partner than Communist China for Korea. Third, in establishing diplomatic ties with Communist China, Korea should do its utmost not to hurt the ROC and damage bilateral relations. Besides the media and politicians in both the ruling and opposition parties, the Korean people at large are very critical of their government's breach of faith and the way they have disregarded justice. [end recording]

Furthermore, late in the afternoon on 22 August, the South Korean Foreign Ministry unilaterally decided to downgrade the ROC mission to Korea to the representative office level. A representative office is lower than a consulate—which is the lowest level of formal diplomatic ties—at the highest level of unofficial relations. The representative office will retain the present embassy's personnel scale and structure, and it will continue to enjoy diplomatic immunity and perform the functions of protecting ROC residents in Korea and issuing visas; however, the official properties—a key issue—will have to be turned over by the Korean side to the Chinese Communists. Outwardly, this is done out of respect (?for the ROC), but actually it is an insincere act, which cannot conceal the South Korean Government's despicable act of betraying a friend. All our embassy staff in Seoul are packing up and getting ready to leave. Ambassador Chin is scheduled to return to Taipei on 24 August after the embassy closes and diplomatic ties are formally severed. The ROC national flag, which has flown in the sky over South Korea for several decades, will be lowered on 24 August.

Ambassador To Return Home 24 Aug

SK2308073592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0713 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—Taiwan's ambassador to South Korea Charles Shu-chi Chin, angered and frustrated at the establishment of diplomatic ties between Seoul and Beijing, is scheduled to return home to Taipei Monday [24 August], a press release by the Taiwanese Embassy here said Sunday.

In the release, the embassy said that Seoul and Taipei would sever official relations from Monday when the Sino-South Korea relations take into effect.

The ambassador is also scheduled to return home on a China Air Lines plane Monday, the release added without further information.

Seoul Considers Asking PRC To Help With North

SK2308070992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0632 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea considers asking China to set up a closer cooperative system to help settle the thorny North Korean nuclear weapons development issue with the normalization of bilateral relations, a high-powered government source said Sunday [23 August]. The move is primarily intended for China to exercise a positive influence over North Korea to try to solve the matter, taking into account the fact that North Korea has averted inter-Korean efforts for a solution, according to the source, who asked not to be identified.

"Seoul is in a position to solidify a cooperative system with China with the restoration of ties," the source said, "in particular, it is expecting China to play a positive role in settling the nuclear issue that has torpedoed improvements in inter-Korean relations."

North Korea might well harbor a grievance toward Beijing in respect to the establishment of diplomatic ties with South Korea but it cannot belittle existing relations with China, an apparent indication that China may exercise a strong influence over Pyongyang, the source anticipated.

"The South Korean Government is going to explain to the Chinese leadership that Seoul is ready to provide

Pyongyang with knowhows to build a nuclear power plant if it shows a sincerity in accepting inter-Korean inspections on nuclear facilities and in solving the issue," the source said.

North Korean Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon had asked asked Seoul to provide Pyongyang with knowhows to build a nuclear power plant during his official visit here earlier.

Minister Announces Annual Meetings With China

SK2408082892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korean Trade and Industry Minister Han Pong-su announced Monday [24 August] that he would meet with Chinese Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Minister Li Lanqing in Bangkok to discuss trade promotion and economic cooperation during the ministerial conference of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation from Sep. 10.

Korea and China would initiate annual trade minister's talks and upgrade working-level meetings between Korea's Trade and Industry Ministry and China's foreign economic relations ministry to permanent intergovernmental consultative contacts, he said.

The bilateral trade agreement that took effect in February, signed by the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (Kotra) and China Chamber of International Commerce, would be replaced with an inter-governmental agreement now that ties had been normalized, Han said.

Kotra's trade representative office in Beijing, which has represented the Korean Government, will become a trade center and three more trade centers will be set up in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Dalian.

The ministry would propel the opening of the Shanghai trade center within this year, while hastening the normalization of Sino-Korea trade relations, he said.

To establish cooperative industrial relations, the Korean Government would encourage enterprises to participate in China's 8th five-year economic development program and planned to send industrial cooperation delegations by the year-end, he said.

Trade Officer Says 'Mutual Need' Led to Ties

SK2208075292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0728 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Beijing, Aug. 22 (YONHAP)—Mutual need for diplomatic relations has pushed South Korea and China to accelerate their normalization, No Chae-won, head of the Korean trade representative here, said Saturday [22 August].

"The normalization is coming earlier than expected because both sides, not one of them, needed it. It will bring forth remarkable results in political, economic, military and all other fields," No said in an interview with YONHAP.

"The United States started negotiations for normalization with China in 1972 and set up the ties in 1978. It took over five years for Japan to establish diplomatic relations with China. South Korea is entering into formal relations with China only about one year and seven months since it started out for the ties on Jan. 30 last year. This says China has been positive about establishing diplomatic ties with us," No said.

On Jan. 30, 1991, South Korea opened its trade representative office in Beijing with No at its head. China opened such an office in Seoul in April that year.

He added that establishment of Sino-South Korean ties would also have an enormous impact on the political and economic order in East Asia.

The normalization would bring economic benefits to South Korea and enhance the status of Seoul in the international community because China is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, No said.

It would also facilitate an end to South Korea's confrontation with North Korea by encouraging the North to show more sincerity in resolving the problem involving its nuclear development, the seasoned diplomat said.

Two-way trade between South Korea and China expanded by leaps and bounds from 3.8 billion U.S. dollars in 1990 to 5.8 billion dollars in 1991 and 3.8 billion dollars in the first half of this year, he said.

The two nations plan to raise the volume to 10 billion dollars at the end of the year, making China Korea's third largest market, he said.

Announcement of the normalization would be followed by signing of aviation, fisheries, sports and other agreements between the two governments, he said.

Touching on Seoul's relations with Taipei, the ambassador said South Korea had maintained friendly ties with Taiwan even after the United States and Japan gave up the country.

He said South Korea had to choose either China or Taiwan, because each of the two, unlike South and North Korea, argued for being the "one and only China" and had a single seat in the United Nations.

Asked about the much-touted visit of South Korean President No Tae-u to Beijing in the fall, he said it was being promoted and would proceed well.

Official Says 'No Reason' To Give PRC Loans

SK2208043692 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0400 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] The government is reported to have decided against providing China any kind of loan in connection with the establishment of diplomatic relations with that country.

Kang Man-su, director of International Monetary Affairs Bureau at the Ministry of Fiance, said today that given China's healthy foreign exchange holdings of more than $50 billion, which is better than our country's, it is inconceivable to give that country loans in connection with the establishment of diplomatic relations.

The official said: In particular, in the past, when our country was establishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, we provided that country with loans as part of economic cooperation for the purpose of easing tensions on the Korean peninsula and entry into the United Nations. However, there is no reason at all for Korea to give such loans to China.

The official explained: It is possible that Korea will provide indirect financial assistance to Korean business firms that establish joint ventures or participate in large-scale construction projects in the Tianjin industrial complex or other such places in China. But this kind of financial assistance is entirely different from providing loans.

PRC Economic Delegation Arrives in Seoul 24 Aug

SK2408100492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0947 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—A large economic mission from the Shandong Province, China, flew into Seoul Monday [24 August] afternoon aboard a chartered plane at the invitation of the Korea Foreign Trade Association.

The 272-member delegation, headed by Li Chunting, vice governor of the Province, will hold an investment briefing session at the Korea Exhibition Center [Koex] on Aug. 28.

They will also take part in a Shandong Province commodity fair taking place at the same Koex from Aug. 29 through Sept. 2.

"Since our Province is the closest to South Korea geographically, our cooperation would contribute much to overall economic exchanges between China and Korea," Li said at an airport press conference.

PRC Expresses Regret Over Korean War

SK2208063292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0615 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 22 (YONHAP)—China has expressed its regret for having fought in the Korean war and caused pain and suffering to the Korean people.

"We reminded China during diplomatic normalization talks of the pain and suffering of the Korean people and asked for an explanation so this unfortunate incident does not recur," a source said Saturday [22 August].

China said it had no choice but to fight because its borders were under threat and called the war unfortunate and regrettable, he said.

The two nations had agreed that they needed to overcome the past and develop mutually cooperative ties for the future, the official said.

PRC Minister Predicts Sports Pact With ROK

SK2208021792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0159 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Beijing, Aug. 22 (YONHAP)—Wu Shaozu, minister of the Chinese State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, said Saturday [22 August] that his country and South Korea would conclude a bilateral agreement on sports exchanges soon after diplomatic ties were established.

A diplomatic breakthrough between the two countries would help bring about an agreement on sports exchanges, but there should be discussion on the timing of the agreement, Wu said.

Meanwhile, Wei Jizhong, secretary-general of the Chinese Olympic Committee, was to leave for Pyongyang later Saturday at the invitation of his North Korean counterpart.

Wei revealed his visit Friday, saying the trip was aimed at expanding exchanges in the sports field. He did not go into detail.

North 'Likely' To Drop Demand on U.S. Bases

SK2308034292 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 23 Aug 92

[YONHAP from Tokyo]

[Text] The Japanese paper TOKYO SHIMBUN today reports that North Korea is likely to withdraw its long-term, insistent demand that U.S. military bases in South Korea be opened to inspection in connection with the mutual South-North nuclear inspections, which has remained a great stumbling block to improving its relations with the ROK and its relations with the United States and Japan.

Citing Japanese sources with connections to North Korea as saying this, TOKYO SHIMBUN says it expects that North Korea will state such a position officially in the eighth round of South-North ministerial talks scheduled to be held in Pyongyang 15-18 September.

Noting that the normalization of diplomatic relations between the ROK and China must have influenced North Korea into withdrawing its call for an inspection of U.S. military bases in South Korea, the paper adds: It is highly likely that Japanese-North Korean negotiations

over the normalization of their relations and South-North talks will make rapid progress.

Official on North's Reaction to ROK-PRC Ties

SK2408005692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0043 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—North Korea may put off its eighth high-level talks with South Korea, scheduled to open in Pyongyang Sept. 15, to protest Seoul's normalization of ties with Beijing, a government official said Monday [24 August].

"North Korea showed a very stiff attitude when members of the Exchanges and Cooperation Subcommittee met at Panmunjom on Friday and it was fairly difficult to negotiate the auxiliary accord," the official said.

He said South Korea had proposed Aug. 27 for the next contact, but North Korea offered to meet on Sept. 3.

North Korea might be trying to delay the next main meeting of the subcommittee to build an excuse to postpone the eighth round of high-level talks with South Korea, he said.

The two sides agreed in the seventh high-level talks to complete an auxiliary accord on exchange and cooperation by Sept. 5 and failure to carry out the agreement would serve as a reason to put off the eighth talks, the official said.

North Korea, in the Exchange-Cooperation Subcommittee meeting, repeatedly called on South Korea to stop the "Focus Lens" joint military exercise with the United States, and said that war games and peace talks could not proceed at the same time, he said.

It will become clear if the North will postpone the high-level talks after the meetings of the Military Subcommittee on Wednesday and the Political Subcommittee on Friday, he said.

"It is true that North Korea is unhappy over the normalization of relations between South Korea and China, but it will not be easy for the North to delay the high-level talks because it has to consider the burden stemming from postponement."

China Said To Drop Military Pact With North

OW2208153592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1514 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 22 KYODO—China has agreed to void its military pact with North Korea in talks with South Korea on normalizing their relations, the CHOSUN ILBO newspaper reported in its early Sunday editions.

The leading South Korean daily said Beijing and Seoul agreed during talks to work out a joint communique to be issued early next week that the military alliance clause in the China-North Korean agreement will no longer be in force.

In a related development, South Korean Foreign Ministry sources said South Korea and China will open full diplomatic relations on Monday as soon as they sign the joint communique in Beijing.

DPRK Reportedly Develops 1000 km-Range Missile

SK2408025892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0238 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—North Korea has developed a missile with an effective range of over 1,000 kilometers, Unification National Party [officially renamed United People's Party] leader Chung Chu-yong said Monday [24 August].

"An official of the U.S. Forces Korea told me he had information on North Korea's success in developing missiles with a 1,000 km range," Chung said.

It is the first time any official of the U.S. Armed Forces in Korea has commented on the North's missile capability.

Chung had lunch Sunday with officers of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command, including Gen. Robert RisCassi, the commander of the U.S. Forces Korea, after he observed the joint Korean-U.S. combined "Focus Lens" exercise at Suwon air base.

North Newspapers Stress 'Ideological Armament'

SK2408081192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0755 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—North Korea's press continues to ignore the establishment of formal relations between South Korea and China while urging its people to further steel themselves with communist ideology.

According to Naewoe press, South Korea's official North Korea watcher, the North Korean press did not report anything on the normalization of Seoul-Beijing ties since Aug. 20, when most news media around the world began to report on it.

The North Korean press did not mention the formal signing of the agreement in Beijing on Monday [24 August]. Nor did it report on the severance of relations between South Korea and Taiwan, Naewoe said.

On the other hand, North Korean newspapers have published articles and editorials during this period stressing the need for strengthening of "ideological armament," adherence to the idea of self-reliance and solidarity of the Communist Party and its people.

Russian Official on ROK-PRC Diplomatic Ties

SK2408003292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0008 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea has worked out a turning point for the peace and security of the Korean peninsula by establishing diplomatic ties with all

four surrounding countries, a highly-placed Russian Foreign Ministry official said Sunday [23 August].

Commenting on the normalization of relations between Seoul and Beijing, the official, who declined to be identified, said South Korea succeeded in setting up formal ties with China at last, following such relations with the United States, Japan and Russia.

The normalization of Seoul-Beijing ties is a decision meeting the change of the times marked by the end of the Cold War and has been predicted as a natural course of action, the official said.

PRC Ties To Change 'North Korea's Attitude'

SK2408092392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0632 GMT 24 Aug 92

[YONHAP "News analysis" by Yi Tong-min entitled: "Seoul-Beijing Ties To Change Order in Northeast Asia]

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—Seoul-Beijing diplomatic normalization changes not only bilateral relations but inter-Korean relations and the political order in Northeast Asia.

Normalization has created cooperative ties and so will affect North Korea-China relations. Considering the waning legacy of the cold war, observers say, the new ties are certain to hasten the arrival of stability and peace on the Korean peninsula.

A change in North Korea's attitude is inevitable. Pyongyang is likely to try to adapt to the new regional order by moving inter-Korean dialogue forward and seeking active improvement of its relations with Japan and the United States.

Having new ties also gives South Korea a new task—adjusting its traditional alliance with Taiwan, with which South Korea has maintained friendly relations since 1948.

The six-point communique of Seoul-Beijing diplomatic normalization is highlighted by two themes—South Korea's recognition of the government in Beijing "as the sole legal governent of China... That there is but one China and Taiwan is part of China," and China's statement that it "supports that the Korean peninsula shall be peacefully reunified by the Korean people."

South Korea's acceptance of Beijing's "one-China policy" dealt a severe blow to Taiwan, which has been trying to win recognition as an independent country through international diplomacy such as membership in the United Nations.

Seoul was one of the most important nations among 30 countries that maintained full ties with Taipei, and its decision to sever these ties expedited South Korea-China diplomatic normalization, the observers point out.

China, they say, reciprocated by including a clause on supporting peaceful reunification of Korea.

This alone may not prove outwardly that China supports South Korea's national reunification policy, but considering that North Korea has not given up trying to reunify by force, the clause can be interpreted as China taking South Korea's side.

But critics point a certain unfairness—while South Korea recognized one China even at the cost of breaking off ties with its old friend, China followed a two-Korea policy and used only abstract terms to express support for South Korea.

Foreign Ministry officials, in explaining the severance of ties with Taiwan, enumerate international precedent. Japan and the United States broke off relations with Taiwan to have diplomatic normalization with China, they say.

South Korea does not have the strength to set up full ties with China and retain its ties with Taiwan, they explain.

The communique says Seoul and Beijing believe their diplomatic normalization "will contribute to the improvement of situation and stability on the Korean peninsula and thus to the peace and stability in Asia," an indication it will lead to cross-recognition of South and North Korea by the four surrounding powers.

Foreign Ministry officials claim the communique has in it the will of the two countries to prevent a surprise North Korean attack and the will not to allow any one nation supremacy in the region.

Observers note that China's political decision for early diplomatic ties with South Korea was spurred by its strategy to secure a leadership role in restructuring the order in Northeast Asia after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

In other words, China probably judged that it needs to have influence over the Korean peninsula via both South and North Korea in order to secure this leadership role.

This is why concerned voices warn against excessive optimism regarding South Korea's ties with China, that Seoul should be cautious not to become a pawn in the tug of war among the surrounding powers.

China will now consider not only the political value of its ties with North Korea but the overall political and diplomatic values regarding the entire Korean peninsula, and South Korea needs to be fully ready for future changes in China's policy.

Apart from what some analysts claim, South Korea-China diplomatic normalization does not mark an end to Seoul's "nordpolitik" but a fresh beginning of new diplomacy that requires spontaneity and aggressiveness to survive among the regional powers.

* North's Export Industry Actively Changing

922c0129A Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 2 Jul 92 p 5

[Article by reporter Kang Tae-ho]

[Text] North Korea's foreign trade is in a period of change.

Its compensation trade in the present form of clearing and settlement, based on long-term trade agreements, is changing to a hard currency accounting system based on international prices. Because of the chaos in the former Soviet Union, North Korea's trade volume for three years running has been decreasing and a top-to-bottom reexamination of trade policy is needed.

According to "North Korean Trade Performance for 1991" which was released on 26 June by JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization), which annually researches and publishes trade transactions for North Korea, North Korea's 1990 foreign trade volume declined an overall 12.6 percent on a money basis compared with the previous year.

As might be expected, if one looks at the 1991 edition of JETRO's "North Korea's Economy and Trade Prospects," in terms of North Korea's trade balance from 1984 to 1988, there was a deficit, but trade recorded a high rate of growth, averaging 20.2 percent a year. In 1989, in the aftermath of the raft of reforms in Eastern Europe that year, trade for the first time showed a decline of 8.6 percent. In 1990 it dropped 4.1 percent.

North Korea's trade volume continuously decreased for three years like this because trade with the Soviet Union, North Korea's biggest trading partner, decreased sharply. The JETRO report shows that in 1991, trade between the two countries decreased some 68.1 percent compared with the previous year.

In North Korea's foreign trade, the proportion accounted for by the Soviet Union is about one half. The report points out that the reason the trade volume declined only relatively slightly, despite the fact that trade with the former Soviet Union decreased greatly, is that trade with China increased 29.3 percent compared with the previous year.

According to the report, the former Soviet Union aside, China has risen to be North Korea's biggest trading partner. Japan's share as the number two trading partner also has increased, albeit its trading activity is not very dynamic.

At present, it is hard to see China assuming the role of the former Soviet Union, however, and filling the vacuum left by the sharply declining trade. The particulars of North Korea-China imports and exports in this report indicate this in concrete terms. First of all, the reason the volume of trade between the two countries has greatly expanded is that the imports to North Korea from China rose about 46.5 percent in comparison with the previous year. The report assesses that in contrast with this, North Korea's exports to China show a trend of continuous decline for five years, including 1991. Of course, because North Korea recorded deficits in trade with the former Soviet Union, this is not a new problem in its trade balance.

A bigger problem is that North Korea's imports from China have increased primarily because of oil imports. This stems from the fact that although the volume of oil imports does not show a big disparity from 1.6 million tons in 1990 to 1.1 million tons in 1991, the cost of the imported crude oil has increased from $50 per ton to $126 per ton.

According to a report titled "The Soviet Union's Financial and Technological Aid to North Korea," which the Russian authorities put out in early June this year, in 1990 the crude oil supplied to North Korea by the former Soviet Union was 475,000 tons, but as of July 1991 the volume of crude oil shipped to North Korea was only 40,000 tons.

In short, this shows that trade with China cannot ease the losses and the shock stemming from the changes in North Korea's trade relations with the former Soviet Union.

Actually, it is understood that North Korea is making up its shortages in the aftermath of the cutoff in Russian oil supplies by importing oil from Iran.

In addition, following the conclusion of a hard-currency payment type trade agreement with the former Soviet Union, North Korea concluded a similar trade agreement with China in January of this year and it is expected that North Korea will experience difficulties with China in the future also.

Of course, North Korea's degree of reliance on the external economy is very low. According to an assessment of the National Unification Board, compared with South Korea's proportion of foreign trade in the Gross National Product of 56.7 percent, North Korea's level is not even half—20 percent. This is because North Korea has adhered to a national independent economic line based on the principle of self reliance. To that extent, one can see that the impact exerted on the overall economy is less.

From the mid-1980's North Korea itself also has been unable to overcome stagnation in economic growth with its self-sufficient economic principle, however. It has been pointed out that the North feels a sense of crisis that as long as it does not encourage the development of productivity through the benefits of the international division of labor, Pyongyang cannot reduce the economic gap between North and South Korea. The high rate of trade growth shown in the latter half of the 1980's underscores this point.

In the very period during which it is switching policies in the direction of strengthening economic cooperation with Western countries by enacting a Joint Venture Law

and the like, it is, rather, being confronted by a situation of decrease and stagnation in foreign trade stemming from the collapse of the former Soviet Union. We may say that these are the circumstances behind its policy of trying to develop export processing areas by announcing the Najin-Sonbong area as a free economic trade zone and luring 100 percent foreign businesses.

Also, according to a report on North Korea's external trade developments issued in April by the KOTRA (Korean Trade Promotion Organization), North Korea is actively using Hong Kong as its major import source and Singapore as its goods procurement source and is seeking to strengthen economic cooperation with Thailand, Indonesia, and other Southeast Asian countries.

In addition, in response to trade diversification, North Korea is also reported to be planning to greatly expand its maritime transport, which has accounted for less than 2 percent of transported cargo, through investments in modernization of ports and harbors.

* North Focuses on Expanding Light Industry

922C0200 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
5 Jul 92 p 4

[Article by reporter Pak Ui-chun]

[Text] Until now, North Korea has consistently followed a policy of heavy-industry-first, emphasizing the production of military goods to boot.

For this reason, the light industry field has retrogressed to become the most backward of all industries in North Korea. This has led to the depressing of the living standards of the North Korean populace.

Furthermore, as soon as the backwardness of light industry began to function as an Achilles heel, bogging down the North Korean economy, North Korea brought out slogans from the mid-1970's such as "light industry revolution" and "people's service revolution" and began to turn its efforts to expanding light industry products quantitatively and qualitatively.

In particular, President Kim Il-song in his New Year's Address this year stressed, "We should fill our shops to overflowing by producing even more high quality and varied consumer goods starting with cloth (suit material)."

It is noted that North Korea has failed to garner any major successes from fostering light industry, however, while continuing to maintain the policy of putting the priority on basic heavy industry.

According to a recent report of the Naeoe Press and "Outline of North Korea's Economic Development and Industry" of the Korea Import-Export Bank's External Investment Institute, despite the fact that North Korea is turning its attention to the light industry sector, the situation with respect to daily necessities is actually worsening.

According to the Naeoe Press, North Korea is providing even less than the standard quota of the basic daily necessities to its populace, supplying only eight bars of soap per family (standard of 47 bars), one pair of shoes per person (standard of four pairs), and one suit of workclothes (standard two suits) per person.

Let us summarize the actual situation by industry:

Fibers The mainstay of North Korea's fiber industry is composed of chemical fibers (man-made fibers and chemical fibers) and blended wool and cotton fibers.

In contrast to the overall textile industry, which is increasing markedly, the wool and cotton fiber sectors, which had formed the mainstay until the 1960's, are showing a rapid decline because of the heavy burden of raw cotton and wool imports.

The major characteristic of North Korea's fiber industry is the substantial development of the polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) and man-made synthetic fibers (vinalon) sector.

Because they use old-style facilities, productivity is extremely low.

In the areas of design, color tones, dyeing, and shrinking in particular they are far below world standards.

Foodstuffs Since North Korea adopted the policy of "liberating women from the kitchen" in order to make up for insufficient manpower in 1970, it has been devoting much attention to the production of instant foods.

Also, North Korea has set up in all parts of the country foodstuff factories for the processing of grains, vegetables, fruits, and meats and fish products.

These have not been supported with investments, however, and, just like other light industry sectors, the quality of their products and their mass production capability are terribly backward.

The major center of foodstuff industry is Pyongyang (processing and packaging of grains, chemical condiments, fruit processing factories); Hoeryong (sugar factory); Sinuiju (bean oil); Sinpo (fish and meat processing factory); Hyesan (soy sauce, bean paste factory); Kaesong (various ginseng products, ginseng wine factory).

Footwear The large scale factories are the Pyongyang Shoe Factory (annual production 3 million shoes); Sunchon Shoe Factory (annual production 1 million shoes); Hamhung Shoe Factory (annual production 1 million shoes); Hoeryong Shoe Factory (annual production 1 million shoes).

North Korea's footwear production capacity as of 1987 is estimated to have been approximately 6 million shoes annually. This represents only one-eighth of South Korea's production capacity at that time of 470 million

shoes. Not only are North Korea's technology and design capability extremely backward, but also the supply of raw materials and subsidiary materials is not smooth. As a result, the production of high quality shoes is somewhat lagging.

Papermaking In North Korea, various kinds of paper and cardboard are now being produced at paper mills in Hamhung, Hoeryong, Sinuiju, Sinchon, and Hyesan.

In North Korea, because the supply of logs, the raw material for papermaking, is feasible to a certain extent, the conditions for development of the papermaking industry are somewhat favorable.

The technology is backward and there is a lack of know-how concerning high rag-content pulp and groundwood pulp, however, and in 1983 North Korea was importing 7,200 tons of paper annually.

Cambodia

Election of President Before Assembly Proposed

BK2308072892 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 23 Aug 92

["Proposal by the State of Cambodia on the election to choose a Cambodian president or head of state before the election to choose a constituent assembly"; dated 22 August—read by announcer]

[Text] The characteristic of the conflict in Cambodia and the deep social rift following more than two decades of protracted war in Cambodia show that solving the Cambodian problem does not mean only ending the war; it also means a national reconciliation process that has to be conducted arduously over a long period of time.

Based on evaluation of the past situation and an estimate of the development of the current situation, it is necessary and indispensable to provide social stability, security, and order, and to ensure daily life and the people's lives in order to guarantee the implementation of the Paris peace agreement and national reconciliation. Based on historical experiences and traditions of the Cambodian people, an illustrious personality with high prestige is required to lead and ensure national unity so as to avoid the great crises shown during the royal leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk from 1941 to 1970.

During the implementation of the agreement over the past 10 months, the situation clearly has shown the influence of the astute leadership of the samdech and his role as a bridge in reconciling and rallying various political forces in the process toward national reconciliation. The loyalty and profound love of all strata of the Cambodian people for the samdech and his prestige clearly stand out among the people. This is becoming a national unification platform aroung the prince's national reconciliation policy.

With consideration given to the above, the State of Cambodia [SOC] side is of the opinion that the election to chose a president or head of state ought to be held before the election to choose a constituent assembly. On this issue, the SOC unswervingly supports the royal candidacy of the samdech for the post of president or head of state so that Cambodia has a president or head of state with full power and serving as a support for the country, nation, and people, and the core to rally various political forces.

Clearly considering that the election to choose a president or head of state before the election to choose a constituent assembly would not affect the ordinary process of implementing the Paris agreement, the SOC is of the opinion that the fact that Cambodia has a (?legitimate) president or head of state, elected directly by the Cambodian people, will assist in the implementation of the Paris agreement, particularly in creating a neutral atmosphere and stability in the final phase of the transitional period, as well as the final phase of the election to choose a constituent assembly and the establishment of a new government. This also would avoid new, crises, both great and small, which eventually could arise after the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia ends its task in Cambodia.

The fact that Cambodian parties and the Cambodian people can achieve the election of their national leader is a matter of national pride and a great success of the national reconciliation policy in Cambodia. It is in this spirit that the SOC proposes that the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] examine and discuss this proposal. The SOC also would like to appeal to all political parties in Cambodia, as well as to the entire Cambodian people, to support this proposal so that Cambodia has a legitimate president or head of state as quickly as possible to lead Cambodia toward an era of peace, national reconciliation, and reconstruction.

Phnom Penh, 22 August 1992

Defense Minister Predicts Landslide Polls Win

BK2408031592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Aug 92 p A4

[Text] Phnom Penh Defence Minister Gen Tie Banh predicted Pracheachon, the political party of the government, would win 70-80 percent of the 120 seats in UN-organized general election next May.

His prediction was based on the view that Phnom Penh controlled about 80 per cent of Cambodian territory.

"We are hopeful that we will win a considerable number of seats, certainly between 70 and 80 per cent, because it is the area that we (Phnom Penh) have been overseeing (over the past decade). We have been protecting the people and staying with them. We have also shared hard times with them," he said on turday.

However, he said, the Pracheachon Party has not underestimated other parties and that "there would be many rival parties contesting in the national poll... and they all want to win."

Speaking in fluent Thai, the defence inister, who is an ethnic Thai from Koh Kong Province, said the Phnom Penh government had assigned most of 20 ministers to oversee the Pracheachon Party's organs.

Tie Banh said he will oversee and coordinate with the party's organizers, representatives and members in Siem Reap Province.

He said he and some other ministers could contest the election under the banner of the Pracheachon Party, but the party has yet to assign electoral constituencies to the candidates.

Tie Banh, who has made several visits to Siem Reap, sometimes on military missions, said the people were "ready and eager" to participate in the election.

The Pracheachon Party will field local people as election candidates in their constituencies.

"Every day we have been trying to improve the people's living conditions. We have also approached the people," Tie Banh said.

The Supreme National Council (SNC), a reconciliatory body comprising representatives of the four rival Cambodian factions, passed new electoral laws on Aug 5, according to the defence minister. But he said the political campaign would start until early next year after the official registration of the political parties with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia has been completed.

Meanwhile, a senior official of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia], a party loyal to SNC Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said his party wanted to see "a strong government" emerge from the election.

Veng Sereivut, a FUNCINPEC SNC secretariat member, said his party would not attack other parties during the campaign because it values "very highly" the basic principle of "national reconciliation" .

He said his party would field candidates in all 120 seats in the 21 provinces and plans to open "residential representative offices."

He said his party was "ready and feeling comfortable about going into the election.

Khmer Rouge Restate Conditions for Obeying Accord

BK2208014692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Aug 92

["22 August 1992 Proposal of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea on the Role of the Supreme National Council and the Implementation of Phase Two of the Cease-Fire"—read by announcer]

[Text] The Cambodian people and international community have repeatedly reasserted that the Cambodian people's sacred rights to determine their destiny themselves free from all outside coercions and interferences should be respected. The Cambodian people hold that the Paris 23 October 1991 accord on a comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem, specifically the two following key aspects, should be correctly, impartially, and justly implemented:

1. The withdrawal of all categories of foreign forces from Cambodia and their nonreturn must be verified; and

2. Appropriate measures must be taken to allow the Supreme National Council [SNC] to play its role as the sole legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia throughout the transition.

The Cambodian people and international community, especially the ASEAN states, earnestly request that the SNC chaired by head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk play its supreme role as the unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia. In addition, they call on all parties concerned to protect the integrity of the SNC as well.

At an SNC meeting in Siem Reap Province on 5 August 1992, His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi, special envoy of the UN secretary general and head of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]—which is required by the Paris accord to cooperate with the SNC in having the accord correctly, impartially, and justly implemented—confirmed that no government should exist in Cambodia during the transitional period, that all state power should be assumed by UNTAC and SNC alone, and that SNC only represents Cambodia's sovereignty.

With the profound intention of having peace, independence, and national reconciliation, the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] wishes to again reaffirm that it respects and abides by the Paris accord staunchly. And with concern and willingness to enhance the peace process and to see all the parties involved correctly, impartially, and justly implement the Paris accord:

1. The PDK wishes to declare that it is prepared to enter the second phase of the cease-fire provided that appropriate measures are taken to hand over all power and necessary means to the SNC to allow the latter to carry out its task as the sole legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia. This is to enable the SNC, chaired by head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk, to take initiative and conduct activities to gradually achieve national reconciliation and create favorable conditions for the successful cooperation between the SNC and UNTAC in the execution of the Paris accord in keeping with all the parties' desire and in accordance with the spirit and essence of the accord itself.

2. Along with all the appropriate measures, the PDK proposes that a consultative commission of the SNC within the existing administrative structures and police forces of all the Cambodian parties be set up under the supervision of UNTAC. The consultative commission will assist UNTAC in supervising the incumbent administrative structures and police forces. This is to create and conserve mutual understanding and trust among all the Cambodian parties, achieve genuine national reconciliation, and establish a neutral political climate necessary for the organization of free, democratic, correct, and fair general elections.

We are of the opinion that it is imperative that representatives of the four Cambodian parties participate in the process of regrouping and placing the troops of the four Cambodian parties in cantonments.

The PDK requests that all the parties concerned scrupulously consider our proposal made with the sincere intention of enhancing the implementation of the Paris accord.

KR Demand Redrawing of Border With SRV

BK2408050792 Hong Kong AFP in English 0455 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] PHNOM PENH, Aug 24 (AFP)—The radical Khmer Rouge [KR] showed up at a Supreme National Council (SNC) meeting Monday saying they had new proposals to break the impasse in Cambodia's peace process, but instead demanded new borders be drawn with Vietnam.

Nominal leader Khieu Samphan presented three statements to the meeting of previously warring factions, chaired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and supervised by U.N. peacekeepers.

The first said all treaties and accords signed between 1979 by Vietnam and the government it installed in Phnom Penh should be declared "null and void." [sentence as received]

He cited three treaties that annex parts of Cambodian territory, and said all borders should return to those internationally recognized before March 18, 1970, when Prince Sihanouk was ousted from power by a U.S.-backed coup.

Khieu Samphan also presented a statement saying his faction would begin disarming as soon it is assured of having more power in the SNC.

The third statement proposed putting consultative committees in the existing Phnom Penh administration, including its police forces.

For its part, the Phnom Penh government proposed having a presidential election before legislative elections scheduled by the United Nations for May 1993.

Such an election is not envisaged in the peace plan, but the Phnom Penh government said it "could only help in the implementation of the Paris agreements."

The SNC was also to adopt a criminal code superseding any existing laws in any of the four factions' zone in Cambodia.

Khmer Rouge Deny Massacring Vietnamese in Kampot

BK2208053492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 21 Aug 92

["Clarification of the Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia Radio on the Massacre of Eight Vietnamese Nationals at Tuk Meas Village in Kampot Province"; date not given]

[Text] The Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia radio wishes to clarify the situation concerning the massacre of eight Vietnamese nationals at Tuk Meas village in Kampot Province as follows:

I. Everyone knows that it was the Phnom Penh faction's soldiers who killed the eight Vietnamese nationals. Voice of America, newspapers, and a spokesman of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] also stated that it was the Phnom Penh soldiers who killed those Vietnamese because Tuk Meas village is located near the position of the Phnom Penh troops.

However, the radio of the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] Hanoi enemies and that of the Vietnamese puppets in Phnom Penh in their broadcasts hurled groundless accusation against the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK]. The spokesman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] already rejected the accusation on 29 July 1992 because Tuk Meas village is adjacent to the township of Tuk Meas district, which has been under the control of the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh faction, and there have been no NADK troops stationed or operating in the area.

II. The event has been ignored for nearly a fortnight. Nevertheless, the Yuon Hanoi enemy aggressors' VNA [VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY] on 14 August 1992 and Mr. Sadry, deputy head of UNTAC, recently raised the matter by placing the blame on the NADK again. This is for the following purposes:

1. The Yuon Hanoi enemy aggressors and Mr. Sadry are maneuvering propagandas to deceive national and international opnions with the intent of concealing and retaining Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia. The issue of the Phnom Penh soldiers' massacring the Vietnamese nationals in Tuk Meas village seriously affects the Vietnamese aggressor forces and has displayed an example that motivates other Cambodian soldiers and the Cambodian people to intensify their struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors to force them to withdraw from Cambodia completely.

2. They are currently carrying out all sorts of terrorist acts, such as arresting and executing the people who oppose the Vietnamese aggressors, concocting the stories of shooting at UNTAC helicopters and attacking and robbing UNTAC vehicles, and so on for the purpose of blaming the NADK.

The Cambodian people do not want to listen to the deceitful propaganda and nonsensical accusations by the Yuon Hanoi enemy aggressors and Mr. Sadry because they are the Vietnamese invaders and occupiers' voices that oppose the Paris accord, keep the Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia, shore up the Vietnamese puppet regime in Phnom Penh, and object to national reconciliation. All in all, the Cambodian people are well aware of the Vietnamese aggressors' true nature. They do not want to listen to the voice of the Vietnamese aggressors and Mr. Sadry. What they want is for the Vietnamese aggressors to withdraw all categories of their

forces from Cambodia to allow the people to choose their destiny themselves via free, democratic, correct, and fair elections.

UNTAC Opens Office in Koh Kong Province

BK2208073092 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] On 13 August, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] inaugurated its office in Koh Kong Province under the chairmanship of UNTAC Head His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi. Present at the ceremony were representatives from British, French, U.S., and Chinese Embassies in Cambodia as well as many leading cadres and UNTAC's troops and policemen in the province.

Speaking on that occasion, H.E. Yasushi Akashi joyfully said that the UNTAC office in Koh Kong Province constitutes a new step towards speeding up implementation of the Paris accord on Cambodia. Referring to UNTAC's mission to Cambodia, H.E. Akashi said UNTAC forces would strive to carry out their tasks with a view to bringing about peace and democracy for the Cambodian people despite the Khmer Rouge's impediment.

UN To Check Phnom Penh Staff for Vietnamese

BK2108085292 Hong Kong AFP in English 0835 GMT 21 Aug 92

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] PHNOM PENH, Aug 21 (AFP) - U.N. peacekeepers will be checking personnel lists of Phnom Penh government ministries to determine whether there are any Vietnamese advisors left from Hanoi's occupation of Cambodia, the acting head of U.N. forces here said Friday.

All non-Cambodians will be escorted across the border by the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), Behrooz Sadry said in an interview.

U.N. peacekeepers are charged with verifying the withdrawal and non-return of foreign forces, namely the Vietnamese who invaded in 1978 to oust the Khmer Rouge and install the Phnom Penh government.

The peace process has been virtually stalled by Khmer Rouge insistence that UNTAC rid the country of what it considers Vietnamese invaders.

An estimated 250,000 ethnic Vietnamese—some who have lived here for generations—have returned to Cambodia since the Khmer Rouge's 1975-1979 racial purification policy in which hundreds of thousands were killed.

Even Vietnamese civilians who work in the Phnom Penh administration qualify as foreign forces, Sadry said.

"Anyone who might have been a participant in the Vietnamese action in Cambodia who decided to either remain or who returned to Cambodia, if identified, would be subject to return to Vietnam," Sadry said.

"I must only assume that anyone (civilian or military) who was here during that period was somehow implicated in that military action," he added.

Ethnic Vietnamese working in the Phnom Penh government, including one who admits to being born in Hanoi, declined to be interviewed.

But government sources said an unspecified number of civil servants born in Vietnam had been given Cambodian identity cards to allow them to stay in the country.

UNTAC has control over Cambodia's five key areas of government—defense, public security, finance, foreign affairs and information.

"Since we have control of defense, in reviewing the list of personnel that they have, that would give us one way of knowing if there are foreign advisors," Sadry said, referring to Phnom Penh's Ministry of Defense.

Compiling personnel and administrative structure information is a normal function of UNTAC in the key areas it controls and also at the provincial levels, Sadry said.

But an UNTAC mobile investigation team could investigate whether any of those people are in fact Vietnamese nationals, he said.

For the rest of the population, Sadry said the United Nations must rely on the factions to provide information that can prove that a Vietnamese former soldier or advisor is working in Cambodia, even if he is now a fisherman.

No factions have provided UNTAC with precise names and locations of Vietnamese forces or advisors, he said.

"We're really not in a position to go and look behind every tree and identify Vietnamese that may have been here," he said.

"If an individual is carrying out normal daily work, we would have to verify with local authorities and perhaps Vietnam, that this person was indeed involved" in the Vietnamese action in Cambodia.

That person would then be sent back to Vietnam, Sadry said.

Ethnic Vietnamese who qualify as being Cambodian according to the election guidelines adopted by Cambodian leaders would be excepted, he said.

Ethnic Vietnamese who were born in Cambodia plus who have one parent born in Cambodia are considered Cambodian.

For those born outside of Cambodia, they must have a parent and a grandparent born here to be considered Cambodian.

Sihanouk Receives Former Thai Premier Chatchai

BK2108125792 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1100 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 21—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC), received here Thursday, 20 August, Chatchai Chunhawan, former premier of Thailand who is on a visit to Cambodia. During his talks, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who returned to Phnom Penh last November after a 13-year exile, expressed thanks to the Kingdom of Thailand for its contributions to the peace process in Cambodia, and considered the latter a "great friend" of Cambodia. He also welcomed Chatchai's initiative to turn Indochina from battlefield into a market place.

Former Thai Premier Chatchai, a strong contender for the post of prime minister and currently campaigning as leader of the newly formed Chat Phatthana (national development) Party for the general elections held next month, arrived here on August 19 for a three-day visit. During Chatchai's premiership Thailand encouraged leaders of various Cambodia rival factions to sit for negotiation and hosted several rounds of peace talks.

According to AFP, the former premier said in Thailand last Thursday that he was still determined to see Thailand becoming a regional economic hub and a gateway for foreign investors moving in the three Indochinese countries (Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia) and Burma.

Part II of Prince Chakkrapong Interview Reported

BK2408110192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Second part of station correspondent's 14 Aug interview with Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, Standing Committee member of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee and vice chairman of the State of Cambodia Council of Ministers—recorded; first part published in 18 Aug East Asia DAILY REPORT.]

[Text] [Correspondent] In conclusion, I ask Your Highness to say something to our people especially concerning the situation at the end of 1992—which is the second phase of the implementation of the Paris peace agreement—at a time when our peasants are busy with their crop growing activities, and when the international community is helping our country restore its infrastructure.

[Chakkrapong] First, I would like to deal with the political situation and inform the people on this as far as my limited knowledge permits. We have so far made gigantic steps since the days we suffered heavy damage. However, I am sure that our nation, our people can preserve the peace agreement, especially when it is in the hands of our people. So that our people can make up their minds, I think that they should be thoroughly briefed on the current situation. As we all know, the implementation of this agreement has been impeded and we know very well that this was due to the Khmer Rouge refusal to implement the agreement that the international community had worked out in Paris.

I have predicted that the Khmer Rouge would never respect this agreement. I have dared to say so because I was on the other side before. Some people wondered why I switched sides and joined the People's Party. When I was on the other side I functioned as army chief and a minister of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia]. My intention at that time was to [words indistinct]. For example, if we want to go to Phnom Penh from Kompong Speu and Kandal, we would have to take different roads. However, despite taking these different roads we will reach the same destination. [Words indistinct] Cambodians the country all want peace, territorial integrity, national reconciliation, sovereignty, and independence. The ends are the same despite the different means to achieve them.

As a citizen, my goal has been fulfilled. This was especially so when the People's Party invited the prince head of state to come back to Phnom Penh and returned to him all his legitimate titles that he used to have before the coup d'etat of 1970. This move was very important to me as a citizen , a citizen who places him on a pedestal above everything else. This was a fulfillment for me as a citizen. I have switched because justice has been done. It was not because I wanted to become a big shot. It was all up to the nation to put me to work. I would have done anything. The prince as head of state left FUNCINPEC and stopped being its chairman to become the father—the shade for the people and the symbol of national independence and sovereignty. This is important. I joined FUNCINPEC because I followed the prince as head of state. The statute of FUNCINPEC clearly stipulated that when the prince as head of state was no more, FUNCINPEC had to dissolve. But FUNCINPEC as a signatory party to the Paris agreement has the duty to continue its existence. However, as a member who respects its statute, I had to quit.

Now let us return to the current political situation. In my opinion, the current political situation is very important. Why do the Khmer Rouge obstruct the implementation of the agreement? In my opinion, the Khmer Rouge do so because they have no other move to make. If they accept the implementation of the agreement, they would betray their own party and their own leaders. Why? Let us suppose that they agreed. First, let us see the plus and minus of each movement. According to the agreement, priority should be given to politics. Politically speaking, a party should win the support of the people and the neighboring countries. But it would be hard for the Khmer Rouge to get such support. In an election it would be tough for candidates of the Democratic Kampuchea party, with the likes of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, and Ta Mok as leaders, to win votes, if any at all. [chuckle] The voters would surely ask candidates, who are your leaders? What they have accomplished? The Khmer Rouge would have

a hard time explaining that. Would they agree to hold the election if they get no support inside and outside the country? No way.

The Khmer Rouge never intend to solve any problem democratically. They only want to seize power by force of arms. Their politics, their political activities, are aimed at perpetually impoverishing our people. What the Khmer Rouge are most opposed to is the development of Cambodia with international aid. This is because the Khmer Rouge movement has been in existence for a long time, since the era of Sangkum Reas Niyum, the reign of the prince as head of state. At that time, this Khmer Rouge movement was not very powerful because under Sangkum Reas Niyum our people throughout the country enjoyed growth and progress. With prosperity, no one wanted to live a hard life in the jungle. Their propaganda was then inneffective. The Khmer Rouge are opposed to development because with development the people are well off, prosperous, and will never want to make war. For this reason, the Khmer Rouge are opposed to development. The prince head of state has been well aware of that; this is why he proposed that since the Khmer Rouge do not want to join the process, we should leave them aside. I still think that nevertheless the international community should [words indistinct]. If there is development [words indistinct] the head of state has much experience and know our people very well [words indistinct] and I myself used to live with the other side; all Cambodian combatants and the people living under the control of the Khmer Rouge have expressed their desire to respect the agreement, but they have no choice. With development, they would come out and see much progress and freedom.

Why have the Khmer Rouge refused to let UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] enter their zones? It is because they do not want their people to have contacts with the outside world. They want to keep political education and propaganda under their control. If UNTAC and other people were allowed to establish contacts, their people and combatants would start seeing the difference. For this reason, the prince father said that the Khmer Rouge's frequent threat to go to war is not important, for we can neutralize it with the country's development. And we keep the door open to them just as the international community prefers so that they can return to the right tract, to the national fold, and coexist with the rest of the people; for many under the control of the Khmer Rouge have always wished to rejoin the national community. [Words indistinct] without risk they would have returned soon enough.

Regarding the current policy, I hold that in order to cope with the present difficulties—especially those experienced by the peasantry—we must have capital for agricultural development. The problems now mainly affect living conditions because of the extreme liberalization and the presence of tens of thousands of UNTAC personnel and many tourists and investors, resulting in excessive demands that we cannot meet. In the past, we grew sufficient crops to feed our families. Now, we need an entire industry to produce enough vegetables and other food. In this way, with the privatization of production, all the income will go to the people. Whatever they produce will be sold for their own profit, not that of the state. As a result, the people will become richer and the goods will cost less to buy. This is what I see as important.

Second, concerning the policy of our State of Cambodia [passage indistinct] it is difficult to get employment for the workers. There is a growing demand for jobs among the workers. Wages are now quite high. Each factory worker now gets at least $35 a month or more than 40,000 riel, which is much more than a state employee gets. [laughter] This is only fair because [words indistinct]. However, as I said, the People's Party has always been true to its nature as an offspring of the workers and peasants. The People's Party will always work to solve problems for the workers and peasants. This is very important politically. If all of us pitch in, we will surely have political stability. This is why some parties are trying hard to perpetuate the status quo so as to deprive us of any stability. Without economic stability, there can be no political stability. Hence the rumors that many small denominations of the riel currency are not in use and so on; these are part of the false propaganda.

[Passage indistinct] if you claim to be truly upholding liberal democracy, stick to liberal democracy through elections. Without stability, it is very dangerous. Both our people and the international community recognize only the party [words indistinct]. If these parties [word indistinct] by causing instability, if there is no stability, if they want to dissolve the State of Cambodia and the People's Party, the only structure left will be that of the Khmer Rouge. Will these parties be strong enough to withstand the party of the Khmer Rouge? We saw in 1975 when the Khmer Rouge seized power that the prince as head of state was detained by the Khmer Rouge [words indistnct] and slaughtered his children. If even the prince as head of state was not able to withstand them, which party, which individual, will then be able to? In my opinion, both I and the others all have weaknesses. Neither party should boast that it has no weaknesses. All have weaknesses, both individuals and parties. No one is perfect. But I think that we should see whether the good or the bad tips the scale. We must go to the heart of it. Let us take the People's Party; it has its own weak points. And so has the (?FUNCINPEC) party. But there must be statistics between the two. Which one has more good than bad on the scale? In my opinion, the People's Party has done a lot of good. First, it has saved the nation from genocide. Second, despite hardships since 1979, our people have enjoyed remarkable progress in education and day-to-day life [words indistinct]. It also has weak points. But compared with the strong points, these weak points are negligible.

Unfortunately, I understand that nowadays the other side only talks of our weaknesses. I understand that this is only their tactic. I want our people to use common sense. If a person is right 100 times, will one or two of his

mistakes make him entiely wrong? Only consider what is important, and what is important is [words indistinct]. The important thing is to follow the policy of the prince as head of state, particularly to join hands, without exception and rebuild the nation just as the prince head of state had said. And I would like to make the appeal and stress here again that the State of Cambodia and the People's Party are concerned about the lot of the workers. Talking about this issue, I would like to make this appeal today. Employees and workers, if there are problems, write to the State of Cambodia and the People's Party. If there are difficulties about writing to ministries, write directly to the office of the Council of Ministers, the State of Cambodia, to all of us, the vice chairmen and so on. We will immediately solve these problems for the people and workers. If the problems can be solved, we will do so; if not, we will provide explanations and try to find ways to do it, because I am convinced that there is only one way, that is, helping one another. Because we are one nation, one country, having the same culture and speaking the same language, we should be able to talk to one another and solve problems through peaceful means.

If we want to have genuine liberal democracy, we must wait until the election. We will cast our votes. And if we are not satisfied, we will wait for another period of time, four years, and so on, the way liberal democracy works in other countries. However, there are two types of criticism: destructive criticism and constructive criticism. Our interest lies in constructive criticism and not destructive criticism, which destroys national interests and not parties or groups. In particular, we appeal for support for the policy of our venerated prince father. We appeal to the international community, which has promised to help develop our country, to do so quickly. It is not coming to help the People's Party. Some people say that doing so it will benefit the People's Party. The truth is that the aid will benefit our people and not just any one party. Therefore, we should carry out development according to what His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk wishes to see. The Khmer Rouge want to solve the problem in a way that would facilitate the Khmer Rouge. The Khmer Rouge [words indistinct] in national development and reconstruction. Once development and reconstruction are completed, the Khmer Rouge will have problems in their propaganda. Once farmers and workers become better off, it will be difficult to carry out propaganda among them. This is my appeal.

[Correspondent] We would like to express thanks to you for allowing us to conduct this interview. We wish you longevity and the five Buddhist blessings. Thank you.

Laos

New Envoys To PRC, U.S., Malaysia Named

BK2408062392 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] On the afternoon of 22 August, Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], presented credentials to new Lao ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the PRC, the United States, and Malaysia. They are Ponmek Dalaloi to the PRC, Hiam Phommachan to the U.S. with the chancery in Washington D.C., and Somphong Vanitsavet to Malaysia.

After the ceremony, President Kaysone Phomvihan chatted with the new envoys and instructed them to hold aloft a high sense of responsibility so as to fulfill their duties, aimed at strengthening the understanding between the LPDR and the countries they have been accredited to. In addition, the president also advised the three ambassadors to thoroughly grasp and appreciate the LPDR's consistent foreign policy toward other countries, aimed at developing and strengthening mutual friendship, solidarity, and cooperation with all countries in the world regardless of the differences in the political systems on the basis of the respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, equality, and mutual benefits.

National Award Conferred on PRC's Deng Xiaoping

BK2208054492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Decree issued by president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on conferring of national gold medal on PRC leader Deng Xiaoping; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Based on point eight of Article 53 of the Constitution of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and based on the proposal No. 10/PM dated 6 July 1992 of the prime minister of the LPDR, the president of the LPDR issues the following decree:

Article 1: Conferring the national gold medal, the highest medal of distinction of the LPDR, on Comrade Deng Xiaoping, senior leader of the PRC on the occasion of his 88th birth anniversary for his great, meritorious deeds in supporting and assisting the Lao revolutionary cause as well as in improving and strengthening the solidarity, friendship, and all-round cooperation between the two parties, two states, and two peoples of Laos and China.

Article 2: This decree comes into effect from the day it is signed.

Debt Clearing Memorandum Signed With Vietnam

BK2108121292 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Text] Vientiane, August 21 (KPL)—A memorandum on debt clearing in accordance with the agreements on grant and long-term interest-free assistance signed between Laos and Vietnam during 1986-1991 was signed here yesterday. [as received]

The memorandum stipulates that the two sides' Boards of Debt Clearing worked together during August 12-20 in Vientiane with the focus on longterm interest-free loans and grant aid fund according to agreements reached

between 1986-1991. The two sides also discussed measures on clearing of longterm interest-free loans granted to Laos by Vietnam and the policies on tariff rate to be practiced between the two countries.

The signatories to the memorandum were Mr. Khamsai Souphanouvong, deputy minister of economy, planning, and finance, and head of the intergovernmental debt clearing board of the Lao Government, and Mr. Pham Van Trong, deputy finance minister and head of the intergovernmental debt clearing board of Vietnam.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Mr. Khamphoui Keoboualapha, vice premier and minister of economy, planning and finance, Mr. Nguyen Xuan, Vietnamese ambassador to Laos, and Lao and Vietnamese technicians.

Mr. Pham Van Trong and his delegation returned home yesterday afternoon.

Malaysian Trade Union Delegation Visits 21-23 Aug

BK2408095692 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Vientiane, August 24 (KPL)—A delegation of the Trade Union of Malaysia from both the state and private sectors headed by Mr. Mohamad Abas, former president of the Malaysian trade union, paid a cordial working visit to Laos during August 21-23, 1992.

The Malaysian delegation, on August 21, met and exchanged views with a delegation of the Lao Federation of Trade Unions. The meeting was seen as a landmark contributing to the development of friendship and assistance between Laos and Malaysia, especially the relations between the trade unions of the two countries.

On August 21 afternoon, the Malaysian delegation visited the textile factory of the Lao Women's Union and the University and Vocational Education Department.

Philippines

Ramos Sacks National Police Chief Nazareno

HK2208080992 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0723 GMT 22 Aug 92

[By Rowena Papasin in Lingayen, Pangasinan]

[Text] President Ramos has announced the dismissal of Philippine National Police [PNP] Chief Cesar Nazareno. Here is part of President Fidel Ramos' statement:

[Begin Ramos recording in English, in progress] ...the PNP which have been brought to my attention for immediate corrective action. The credibility of the Philippine National Police has been seriously impaired. The integrity and good image of our law enforcers have been severely tarnished.

I have, therefore, decided to take the necessary steps to save the PNP from declining further; to restore its credibility, to maintain its effectiveness, and to promote the professionalism of the police organization in the long term. To this end, I have ordered the termination of the appointment of Police General Cesar P. Nazareno as chief of the Philippine National Police and have placed him on detail with the Office of the President effective August 22 1992.

This decision is based on the recommendation of the National Police Commission en banc by way of its resolution No. 92-95 dated August 13 1992.

Deputy Director General Raul Imperial is designated acting director general of the Philippine National Police in place of Police General Cezar Nazareno effective August 22 1992. [end recording]

'Major Revamp' Expected

HK2408091292 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 24 Aug 92 pp 1, 10

[By Dario Agnote—italicized passages published in Tagalog]

[Text] Interior and Local Governments Secretary Rafael Alunan III is expected to undertake a major revamp of the Philippine National Police [PNP] following the ouster of Director General Cesar Nazareno as PNP chief last Saturday.

In a related development, Sen. Blas Ople sought clarification on the reasons for Nazareno's ouster.

Sources at the National Police Commission [Napolcom] said the revamp, which is likely to affect top-level officers at Camp Crame as well as field commanders, is the "logical offshoot" of Nazareno's relief.

Nazareno himself told the INQUIRER that Alunan wanted him out as PNP chief so that the DILG [Department of Interior and Local Governments] secretary could overhaul the entire police structure.

Nazareno, however, said he had expected that he would be given some time to launch a campaign of his own to rid the police agency of erring personnel.

Alunan has vowed to cleanse the image of the scandal-rocked agency, but his actions have been severely criticized.

Senators, for example, have sought Alunan's ouster as they accused him of appointing 12 police directors without consulting the governors of the affected provinces.

Alunan insisted he had intended to consult the concerned local officials, but said the "draft memorandum" on the appointments was prematurely leaked to media.

Acting PNP Director General Raul Imperial said a revamp of the PNP could be "an inevitable consequence" of Nazareno's removal.

In a news conference prior to Nazareno's ouster, Imperial said: "I will not institute a revamp just for the sake of making changes. But I am open to reforms."

Ople, a staunch critic of Alunan, said the grounds cited by National Police Commission for Nazareno's relief were "extremely vague and ambiguous."

"Is Nazareno guilty of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance, or is he merely being set up as a fall guy for blunders committed by his superiors?" Ople said in a statement.

"If the commission which is chaired by Secretary Alunan is holding him liable for command responsibility, it should categorically say so," he said.

"Does the responsibility stop at the desk of the PNP chief or does it reach upward to higher authority?" he added.

The President, in announcing Nazareno's relief, said he had been "greatly disturbed by the widespread demoraiization of the PNP in the wake of various reports on the involvement of some of its officers and men in criminal activities."

He also cited "persistent" complaints from policemen about the internal management of the police agency.

Nazareno's ouster was recommended by the Napolcom in a resolution dated Aug 13.

The resolution was signed by Alunan, Napolcom Executive Director Rene Cruz, and Napolcom Commissioners Edgar Dula Torre, Guillermo Enriquez, and Federico Comandante.

Nazareno, meanwhile, met with Imperial at his official residence inside Camp Crame at 0830 yesterday.

Souces said the occasion was actually "a simple turnover ceremony."

Nazareno also started moving out his things in his office at the third floor of the General Headquarters building. He also took a break by playing lawn tennis at the PNP tennis court.

"*I know I am not a bad person and I did nothing wrong,*" Nazareno told reporters. "*The time will come when everything will be clarified.*"

He also said he was confident Imperial "could handle the job as PNP chief much better."

The embattled police general was moved to the Office of the President, but was not given any specific assignment.

Mr Ramos is expected to meet Nazareno "in the next few days" to discuss the general's new post, presidential spokesperson Annabelle Tecson-Abaya said.

Nazareno appeared to have not had the slightest hint that he would be relieved as PNP chief.

A few hours before Nazareno learned the news, he was planning a massive campaign to rid the entire police force of scalawags and misfits.

"I need a miracle to bounce back and improve the dishonored image of the PNP," Nazareno had said, referring to widespread accusations that many police officers and men were involved in criminal syndicates.

Military To Intensify Combat Operations

HK2408064292 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 23 Aug 92 pp 1, 10

[By Dario Agnote and Bobby Timonera—italicized passages published in Tagalog]

[Excerpt] Despite President Ramos' peace initiatives, the Armed Forces will intensify its combat and psychological warfare operations in the countryside, a top military official said yesterday.

Meanwhile, an organization of former political detainees said the proposal to repeal Republic Act 1700, otherwise known as the Anti-Subversion Law, will actually free only 25 of the more than 600 political prisoners in the country.

Brig. Gen. Regino Lacson, commander of the 2nd Infantry Division based in Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, said the military's plan to intensify operations in the next four months is in line with its bid to gain strategic victory by yearend.

He said the emphasis of Lambat-Bitag II [Net Trap] is on psychological operations (psyops), or civil-military operations (CMO) in military jargon.

"We are concentrating more on winning the people's hearts and minds," Lacson said in a recent interview. "That is why we need to conduct extensive CMO in areas which are still under the influence of communist terrorists."

Lacson, former AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] operations chief and one of the drafters of Lambat-Bitag II, said there were at least 10 psyops being implemented it. Quezon province, Bicol and other areas where the military has noted a resurgence of the communist political infrastructure.

At the closing rites of a workshop-seminar for operations officers and company commanders at Fort Bonifacio last Wednesday, Army chief Lt. Gen. Arturo Enrile gave no less than the President a sample of the psyops.

A 40-minute "guerilla theater" entitled "Isang Kasay-sayan sa Barangay Kawayanin [A Story in Barangay Kawayanin]" and depicting how the New People's Army [NPA] guerillas destroyed a village's peaceful way of life, was presented to show the "powerful impact" of these tactics in the countryside.

Other psyops include a weekly soap opera called "Flordelina;" a freedom caravan; a radio broadcast using an Icom hand-held radio; and meetings and like activities.

Lacson said the military is also planning to put up radio stations in the provinces.

"*We want to unveil the NPA's deception*," he said. "*How they ruined the peace and aspirations of the youth. As soon as they see this play, their love for democracy will be strengthened.*"

Lacson said he believed the government will attain strategic control over the insurgents by December.

Asked how the peace process would affect the government's target of strategic victory by the end of 1993, Lacson said: "(It would help us) because after all, the objective of strategic victory is to lessen the number of enemies... The peace process will definitely help us lessen the number of enemies." [passage omitted]

Police Ready To Assume Anti-Insurgency Duties

HK2408054892 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] In spite of the problems the Philippine National Police [PNP] has faced in the past weeks, acting PNP Chief Raul Imperial said the timetable for taking over the national insurgency problem from the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] has not changed.

According to Imperial, the police have had several meetings with the AFP relating to the scheduled PNP takeover of some other areas in the country.

Based on the law that created the PNP, its responsibility is to take care of insurgency problems, while the AFP will shift to its modernization program and external defense.

Imperial said that at present some areas have already been taken over by the PNP and it has already taken care of encounters with rightist and leftist rebels, particularly in the National Capital Region, Central Luzon, Leyte, Mindoro Island, and Cebu.

Imperial added that other areas are scheduled to be turned over to the PNP this year, saying that despite problems encountered in the past weeks it still has been on track in taking over the insurgency problem from the AFP.

Military Arrests Top Rebel Leader in Misamis

HK2108025692 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 21 Aug 92 p 22

[By Cynthia de Leon]

[Text] Cagayan de Oro—Joint police and army forces captured Monday evening from a priest's beachhouse in Initao, Misamis Oriental, Laurito Cagaes, the alleged chief of the Misamis Oriental Provincial Party Committee (MOPPC) and his wife Gemma Caculba, an escaped prisoner and alleged member of the NPA [New People's Army] headquarters finance staff.

Senior Police Officer 1 Benjamin Rada said a security guard of the Midway Beach Resort at Barangay Tubigon in Initao identified the beachhouse owner as one Father Solomon of the Sugbongcogon parish, also in Misamis Oriental.

But Cagaes, a former agricultural engineering student of Xavier University [XU] here, said the resthouse was owned by Temis Bueles, a former XU colleague. "It was only coincidental that Father Solomon was visiting Ms. Bueles at the time," he said.

Cagaes, also known as Dante/Julius, and Caculba, alias Janice/Jungle/Cheery, carried P100,000 [Philippine pesos] and P70,000 rewards for their capture, said 4th Infantry Division Commander Brig. General Quintin Alcudia.

Police Senior Inspector Eleuterio Amora said the couple, who did not resist arrest, will be charged with subversion and illegal possession of explosives.

Police and Army reports said a hand grenade and subversive documents were found in the possession of the suspects at the time of their arrest.

Interviewed in their air-conditioned detention room at Camp Evangelista, Cagaes, 32, and Caculba, 24, admitted membership in the underground movement but denied all the allegations against them.

"They still have to prove in court that I'm the MOPPC chief," Cagaes told INQUIRER.

"As for the so-called illegal material, there was no grenade, no document, no evidence of any kind in the house," Cagaes said.

He admitted being "treated well" and showed off the Marlboro and Philip Morris cigaret packs supplied by his captors.

Caculba's lunch consisted of chicken curry and rice. They each had a cot with mattresses and their privacy was ensured by curtained windows and a locked door.

Cagaes was said to be responsible for the death of 19 persons in two ambuscades in Dampil and three in Sugbongcogon from 1987 to 1990, said Rustum Jatico who claimed to be a former member of the NPA provincial assessment committee.

Three civilians were killed in the January 1987 ambush in Dampil. "It was a mistaken identity," Jatico said.

She had been arrested on Aug. 27, 1989 in Cagayan de Oro. She escaped from the provincial jail 10 months later.

Senator Criticizes Colleagues for Inaction

HK2408040892 Quezon City MALAYA in English 24 Aug 92 p 3

[Text] Sen. Santanina Rasul (Lakas-NUCD) [Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats] yesterday criticized her colleagues for the Senate's inability to act on any of the more than 400 bills that had been filed, even when Congress is already set to adjourn on September 3.

Rasul said she doubts if the Senate would be able to pass any bill at all, even on first reading, as the sessions have been taken up mostly by privileged speeches.

Rasul also defended Malacanang for not submitting to Congress any of its proposed legislative measures by saying that even before Ramos outlined these bills, "there were already counterparts for similar bills that had been filed."

"Why are they waiting for Malacanang? We should just do our job (by) looking into bills that were already filed by the different senators. Our responsibility is to tackle the bills already filed in Congress," Rasul said.

Rasul expressed her dissatisfaction with what she sees as slow- paced legislative work saying, "I am certain that we will adjourn with no bill being approved."

Rasul cited, for example, the Commission on Appointments [CA] which until now has not been convened because of intraparty squabblings.

"The Cabinet has been appointed and not one of them has been heard by the CA. So that is also an act of omission on the part of Congress. And if Malacanang blames us, they really have an issue there," she said.

The 24-member CA was stalled by disputes for representatives in the minority Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC).

Rasul lamented that her being part of the minority party deprived her of any committee chairmanship. "If I were a committee chairman I should have, by now, gone over the bills submitted to me and tackled the ones already approved (by the previous Congress) so as to have them calendared for deliberations on the floor."

Thailand

Foreign Minister Denies Supporting Khmer Rouge

BK2208073792 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 21 Aug 92 p 14

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin has strongly denied the allegation that Thailand supports the Khmer Rouge, which is the only faction that still refuses to cooperate with the UN Cambodian peace plan.

The Thai foreign minister said during a visit to Poipet that foreign countries should understand that the Thai Government and military have given full cooperation and assistance to the Cambodian people.

Asa said that the Khmer Rouge made only about U.S. $1 million per month in selling gems and wood to Thai private traders. The money was too little to have any effect on the Khmer Rouge's attitude toward the peace process in Cambodia.

Says Not Responsible for KR Behavior

BK2308154892 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin stated to newsmen at the Bangkok Airport after returning from the second meeting of the Thai-Lao joint commission in Ko Samui, Surat Thani Province, that Thailand would protest to the United Nations if accused of being responsible for the failure by the Khmer Rouge [KR] to implement the peace agreement signed by the four Cambodian factions. The minister also said the United Nations must deal directly with the Khmer Rouge over any failure to abide by the Paris agreement. Thailand could not be held responsible.

[Begin Asa recording, in progress] We want all parties to abide by the Paris agreement. Yet we cannot accept responsibility for the Khmer Rouge failure to implement the agreement. We have repeated our stand. Therefore, we would protest to the United Nations should there be any accusation against Thailand. [end recording]

Country Not 'Taking Sides' With KR

BK2408125092 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin reaffirmed that Thailand has never provided any support for the Khmer Rouge, adding that we merely do our duty of promoting all efforts to restore peace in Cambodia. It is not Thailand's responsibility to dictate to the Khmer Rouge. Therefore, Thailand should not be accused of taking sides with the Khmer Rouge [KR]. If they keep accusing us, we will have to defend ourselves. However, it is unlikely that we will send a protest note to the United Nations. It is sufficient to defend ourselves through the mass media.

Denying as untrue the statement made by the commander of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] that UNTAC officials are unable to check certain parts of the Thai-Cambodian border areas because they are under the Thai Navy's control, the foreign minister said he had met with the UNTAC commander and led him to inspect several areas under the military control. The UNTAC officials have been allowed to inspect any areas in line with the attempt to implement the Paris peace agreement.

Regarding the UNTAC commander's planned meeting with Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit late this month, the foreign minister said he did not know about this matter, noting that he has informed the UNTAC commander on several occasions that Thailand is ready to render its full cooperation.

Commerce Minister Discusses Recent Visit to SRV

BK2408092592 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Speaking to reporters this morning about his visit to the SRV from 18 to 22 August, Commerce Minister

Amaret Sila-on said that he had concluded an agreement with Commerce and Tourism Minister Le Van Triet on rice production and export. The agreement will serve as the framework for consulations at three levels; namely annual ministerial meetings, quarterly official-level meetings, and exchange of visits between the private sectors of the two countries. Hence, the two countries will be able to share information and cooperate in the areas of technology, production systems, and storage. The agreement is aimed at preventing price-cutting competition, thus helping to raise rice prices and improve the livelihood of farmers in the two countries.

During the visit, the commerce minister met several Vietnamese personalities and discussed with them the expansion of trade and investment, low-interest loans, and cooperation in the petroleum industry. He also visited seaports, factories, rice mills, and marketplaces and found that Vietnam has made considerable progress in the production of garments, shoes, and cement. Prices of vegetables, fruits, and meats in the marketplaces are cheaper than in Thailand. He also noticed that chicken prices are higher than pork prices. However, food prices are rather high compared to the people's income.

2d Thai-Lao Joint Committee Meeting Held

BK2208073492 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Economic relations have been highlighted at the second meeting of the Thai-Lao Joint Committee which began yesterday in the Samui Island, the southern province of Surat Thani. The three-day meeting hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs discusses political, social, and refugee issues, including narcotics suppression cooperation. Trade and investment cooperation is being focused upon by representatives of both sides.

A purpose of the meeting is to review all bilateral issues. Leading the Thai delegation is Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin. The Lao delegation is led by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut. The two countries signed an agreement for the formation of the Thai-Lao Joint Committee in May last year. The first ministerial-level meeting of the joint committee was held in August last year in the central province of Phet Buri.

Economic Agreements Reached

BK2308063692 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 92 p 2

[Text] Koh Samui, Surat Thani—Thailand and Laos agreed on many economic-related issues in the second meeting of the Thai-Lao Joint Commission at the Imperial Boat House here yesterday.

According to a joint statement released after the meeting, seven of the 16 issues discussed by the two countries were related to economic matters.

Both countries agreed to open four more border passes between Loei's Chiang Khan District and Sanakham of Vientiane Province, Nong Khai's Bung Kan District and Paksane, Loei's Ban Pak Huay and Ken Thao, and Loei's Ban Khok Phai and Vang Mai of Sanakham District.

The four new border checkpoints will be open on a permanent basis. At present only the first one has obtained Cabinet approval while the proposal for the opening of the other three has been accepted by the Thai side, according to Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, who led the 27-member Thai delegation.

The new border checkpoints will open when Laos solves other obstacles, Mr Sarasin said.

The joint statement released yesterday also noted that to further boost economic ties Thailand would consider lowering the import tax levied on Laotian processed wood.

On transport issues, the joint commission agreed to liberalise goods transported from other countries through Thailand to Laos, and from Thailand to Laos by letting both private and state enterprises bid fairly for the transportation service.

"Laos does not monopolise the transport of goods," said Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut, who led the 24-member Laotian delegation.

Other economic-related issues discussed included energy cooperation. The two countries will jointly conduct a feasibility study to improve and build more electricity generating plants in land-locked Laos.

Thailand has ranked first among investors in Laos over the past three years. Eighty Thai businessmen have invested a total of about US$128 million in Laos, according to the Thai Commercial Counsellor Office in Vientiane.

The Thai-Lao Joint Commission agreed that the Thai-Lao Border Committee should study border disputes, not only in Phitsanulok Province and Boten of Laos' Sayaboury Province, but also, along the entire stretch of the 1,754-kilometre border from Chiang Rai to Ubon Ratchathani provinces.

A government official commented that the two sides did not take this issue seriously and seemed to be waiting for a more appropriate time to tackle this problem constructively.

Both Thailand and Laos will seek a 3.5-million-dollar fund from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to repatriate Lao refugees as planned.

About 53,700 Lao refugees live in six camps in Thailand, according to National Security Council secretary-general Gen Charan Kunlawanit.

Thailand has set a deadline for Laotians living in the kingdom to return to their homeland or leave for a third country before 1995. The deadline was set during a meeting between Thailand, Laos and the UNHCR in Rayong Province on July 13-14.

Other issues discussed at yesterday's meeting included cultural cooperation, tourism, border security and cooperation on the suppression of narcotics.

Meeting Concludes

BK2308152592 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Report by correspondent Chanya Proyananthakun from Samui Island, Surat Thani Province]

[Text] The outcome of the second meeting of the Thai-Lao Joint Commission reflected improved political relations between the two countries. The meeting was hosted by Thailand at the Imperial Boat House Hotel in Ko Samui District, Surat Thani Province. Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin was leader of the Thai delegation, while the Lao delegation was headed by Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut.

The meeting was marked throughout by an atmosphere of cooperation, especially concerning political issues, border disputes, and discussions between the border security committees of the two countries. There is no more problem about Laos' suspicion that Thailand supported terrorism in Laos. Thai authorities recently arrested ten Hmong terrorists, some of them holding U.S. passports. Thailand has contacted the U.S. Embassy for a deportation of those people. They are now blacklisted from entering Thailand. Thailand's approach demonstrated its sincerity toward Laos and has given greater confidence to Laos.

Concerning Lao refugees in Thailand, Laos expressed a willingness to take all the refugees back. Yet, there is still a financial problem in handling the matter.

[Begin recording] [Foreign Minister Asa, in progress] We agreed that both countries must try to persuade the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as well as other private organizations not to reduce financial assistance for the repatriation of Lao refugees. Thailand and Laos realized that the issue could send an impact affecting relations between the two countries. They therefore pledged full cooperation to solve the problem of refugees. [end recording]

On trade, Thailand agreed to lower taxes on 12 agricultural products from Laos, and to allow four more goods from Laos into Thailand under the quota system. They are: soya beans, garlic, coffee beans, and jute. Concerning border trade, they agreed to open more checkpoints for border trade. The two countries also agreed to pursue cooperation in the areas of technical and cultural exchanges as well as in other fields.

The meeting reflected a smooth friendship between Thailand and Laos. Laos stressed that Thailand should be sincere in all dealings with Laos. Thailand has already displayed its sincerity during this meeting.

Lao Refugee Camps To Close as Repatriation Continues

BK2308102092 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] There are still 50,356 Lao refugees remaining in Thailand following efforts made to repatriate them. Sakthip Krairoek, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, said that more refugees will be sent back under a program which is being organized by the United Nations aimed at helping the returnees adjust themselves to new surroundings. This includes supplies of rice and crop seeds to the refugees in order to make them become self reliant. As the number of Lao refugees in Thailand is diminishing, more refugee camps, especially those along the border, will be closed down. The refugee center at Ban Winai in Loei Province will be closed late this year, while the center in Ban Chiang Kham in Phayao Province will be closed late next year.

Foreign Minister Meets Philippines Counterpart

BK2408085192 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Philippine Foreign Minister Roberto Romulo and his party this morning paid a courtesy call on and held consultations with Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin. Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said he had discussed with the Philippines guests Thailand's attitude toward Indochinese countries and the Nonaligned summit in which Thailand will attend as an observer. He added that after a joint commission is established, a date for its first meeting will be announced.

Asa Sarasin said that bilateral trade, amounting to $300 million annually, can be further expanded. The Thai private sector will have a good opportunity to invest in the Philippines as that country is in the process of enlarging the Subic Bay naval base. The Philippines foreign minister will also attend the APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] conference to be held here. During the conference, participants will discuss setting up an APEC office.

The Philippines foreign minister and his party are scheduled to pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun at Government House at 1400 today.

Thai-Philippine Joint Commission Set Up

BK2408134492 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] At 0930 today, Philippine Foreign Minister Roberto Romulo and his party paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin. The two foreign ministers signed an agreement on the establishment of a joint commission for the promotion of Thai- Philippine cooperation at the Crystal Lotus Room of the Foreign Ministry. The objectives of the agreement are to further

strengthen friendly relations, promote bilateral cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual interests, and respect for each other's sovereignty.

The agreement stipulates that the signatories to the agreement will set up a joint commission at the foreign minister level for consultations and promotion of economic, trade, social, and cultural cooperation for mutual benefit. Moreover, the joint commission will seeks ways to fulfill the objectives of the agreement, and review and accelerate the implementation of various agreements signed earlier by the two countries. The agreement is valid for a period of five years and its validity will continue after that until either party calls for its termination.

The two countries will alternatively host the annual conference of the joint commission. A meeting of senior officials might be held in preparation for the annual conference.

Vietnam

Commentary Views U.S. Republican Convention

BK2208142592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 21 Aug 92

[Commentary by Duong Quang Minh: "What Did You See in the First Days of the U.S. Republican Convention?"]

[Text] The 35th U.S. Republican convention is taking place in Houston, Texas. Although the party's key documents have not been introduced in their entirety, public opinion has obtained a nearly complete view of what is going on within this party and what this party has advocated as its domestic and foreign policies for implementation after the convention.

First, disunity and a row within the party have emerged. This is more evidenced by the fact that a not inconsiderable number of the party's influential members in the U.S. Congress and in many states were either absent from the convention or, more precisely, did not want to attend it. The NEW YORK TIMES reports that over one-third of the Republicans in the U.S. Congress and governors from many states did not attend this convention. They were represented only by alternative delegates. Some of them excused themselves by saying that they had to spend their time campaigning or doing other jobs. Others made it clear that they were not satisfied with the party's program of action. A public opinion poll conducted early in this month by USA TODAY also shows that at least 16 out of 43 Republican senators and 70 out of 166 Republican members of the House of Representatives would not attend the convention.

The second point is that through the convention, Republican leaders are trying to defend themselves by casting the blame on other people for the serious consequences of the waning U.S. economy, which has already affected the American people, and for the loss of confidence among the people.

Radio France Internationale—RFI—reports that throughout the first three days of the Republican convention, all the speakers emphatically and uniformly claimed that in the past, every time when they presented before the U.S. congress a proposal beneficial to the people, they would be immediately and overwhelmingly overruled by the Democrats. As for the budget deficit of $333 billion planned for next year and the United States' debt of up to $4 trillion—a huge burden to be left behind for posterity to bear—the Republican camp wanted to balance the budget by cutting defense and welfare, but this was also rejected by the Democrats. Other proposals of the Republican Party on education, employment, and crime control were also opposed by the Democrats.

The third point is that in its foreign policy, the Republican Party still advocates increasing overseas U.S. military forces and trying to maintain a position of strength from its war potential.

In Europe, the Republican Party is pursuing a policy called collective committment to NATO allies in order to disseminate U.S. ideals and protect U.S. interests abroad. It pledges to maintain a powerful armed forces in Western Europe capable of influencing those policies and events which may affect the life and security of future American generations.

Concerning Asia and the Western Pacific, the Republican Party pledges to maintain the U.S. military presence in Japan and many other areas.

As for the Middle East issue, the Republican Party still maintains its determination to broaden and increase its strategic relations with Israel, its strategic ally, through the maintainance of aid for this country, while opposing the founding of an independent Palestinian state or any potitical entity that may cause harm to Israel.

As far as Vietnam is concerned, U.S. President Bush adamantly reiterated his stance that the United States would not reestablish diplomatic ties with Vietnam as long as those issues related to Americans missing in action in Vietnam have not been satisfactorily settled.

It remains to be seen if there is anything new in the contents of incumbent President Bush's speech in accepting his nomination as the presidential candidate of the Republican Party at the final session of the convention to be held in the afternoon—Texas time—of 20 August. For instance, what will the George Bush-Dan Quayle slate pledge and do until the presidential election to be held on 3 November.

U.S. public opnion believes that whatever the situation, this presidential slate will remain in a passive position. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR observes that Bush started his presidential race this year as an unxpected loser. Other newspapers believe that Bush came to the Republican convention this time to stimulate the spirit of Republicans and his frustrated supporters. He would manage to describe himself as the President who won the cold war. Since he had changed the process of

human history, he would be able to effect a change in his country's life and stabilize the economy.

Speaking to newsmen on his arrival in Houston to attend the Republican convention, President Bush said: Over the past nine months, the Republican Party has had a one-sided dialogue with the American public and now it is his turn. It is interesting that one may find some bitter flavors in the boastful speech of the incumbent U.S. President. Mr. Bush said: I know I have failed in public opinion polls but I will continue to work more effectively whenever I suffer a failure like that.

Violence Against Vietnamese in Cambodia Denounced

BK2208070792 Hanoi VNA in English 0634 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 22—According to RFI [Radio France Internationale] quoting AFP, radio of Democratic Kampuchea (Khmer Rouge) on August 19 said that the Khmer Rouge killed a family of Vietnamese residents in Phoum Khneas village, near Tonle Sap lake, Siem Reap Province, in mid-July last.

On this matter, VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY is authorized to declare the following.

"Together with the massacres of two Vietnamese families in Kampot on July 21, 1992, this is another savage act of the Khmer Rouge in blatant violation of the Paris agreement on Cambodia and international law, especially the declaration on human rights, an act which cannot be tolerated by any people of conscience in the world.

"The spokesman of VNA strongly condemns the above-mentioned barbarous acts of Democratic Kampuchea and demands that they put an immediate end to their criminal acts against Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia, and that the Cambodian parties, the Supreme National Council (SNC) and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) take drastic measures to guarantee the right of Vietnamese to a peaceful life like any other foreign nationals in Kampuchea, Vietnam appeals to the international community to condemn most strongly the above-said acts of the Democratic Kampuchea faction and to check their criminal hands against Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia" the spokesman adds.

Trade Union Delegation Visits Ukraine, Belarus

BK2308152792 Hanoi VNA in English 1540 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23—A delegation of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers (CVW) led by Mrs Cu Thi Hau, vice president of the confederation, paid a visit to Ukraine from August 15-17.

While in Ukraine, the Vietnamese delegation held talks with a delegation of the Ukraine Independent Trade Unions Federation (UITUF) led by its acting president A. Effimenko.

The two sides signed a memorandum on cooperation between the two trade union organization in information, exchange of visits, personnel training and trade uion economy.

Earlier, the delegation paid a visit to Belarus where it held talks with a delegation of the trade unions federation led by its President V. I. Goncharik; the two sides also signed a memorandum on cooperation.

Mrs. Cu Thi Hau and her party were received by Vice Premier N. Kostikov.

Russian Areas Propose Economic, Commercial Links

BK2308073892 Hanoi VNA in English 0525 GMT 23 Aug 92

[All names as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23—According to the Vietnam Centre for Commercial Information, 8 provinces and economic zones in the Russian Federation have sent their detailed proposals on economic, commercial cooperation with Vietnam.

These include the exchange of goods in the forms of barter trade, opening of shops of one country in the other, organization of tourism, joint ventures in investment and production, establishment of import-export companies to trade with third countries.

Rice, meat, tea, vegetable oil, sea products and consumer goods which are Vietnam's traditional exports to the former Soviet Union are included in the proposals.

The commercial committee of Treliabinsk has asked Vietnam to open an exhibition on garments, shoes, cosmetics, sport and electronic appliances as prelude to the signing of trade agreements.

The Antai economic zone has proposed the establishment of joint ventures with Vietnam in processing vegetables, producing medicines, household utensils and in gardening and tourism.

The Ianatar committee for economic development of Kaliningrad wants to enter into joint ventures with Vietnam to build engineering factories, electronic industry, light industry, food industry, fishery and sea products processing, vegetable processing...

Camtratex province wants to cooperate in producing CH3, OH and in exploiting peat for the production of fertilizer.

Vladimersk province wants to export to Vietnam different kinds of products such as machinery, chemicals, car parts, sawn timber, telephone cable, radios and consumer goods and to import from Vietnam agricultural and sea products and consumer goods.

Malaysian Minister Concludes Visit 22 Aug

BK2208145992 Hanoi VNA in English 1431 GMT 22 Aug 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 22—Malaysian Minister of Sciences, Technology and Environment Law Hieng Ding and his party concluded today their working visit to Vietnam from August 17. The Malaysian minister had working sessions with Chairman of the Vietnamese State Commission for Sciences Dang Huu. They discussed modalities of cooperation in the fields of science, technology and environment between the two countries. The Malaysian minister and his party were received by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet on August 19.

Major Cooperation Accords Signed With France

BK2408070292 Hanoi VNA in English 0543 GMT 24 Aug 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 24—Vietnam and France on Saturday concluded two important accords on cooperation in transport, construction and urban services.

The agreements were signed in Hanoi by French Equipment, Housing and Transport Minister Jean-Louis Bianco and Minister of Transport and Communication Bui Danh Luu and Minister of Construction Ngo Xuan Loc of Vietnam.

The two countries will cooperate in dozens of projects on the modernisation of airports; the development of ports; the construction of bridges, streets and hotels; the production of construction material; and formulation of urban policies.

Mr. Bianco, who is on a five-day official visit to Vietnam since Thursday, told a press conference in Hanoi the projects would include the construction of a bridge across the Gianh River in Quang Ninh Province, the extension of Highway 5 between Hanoi and the port city of Haiphong, and the modernisation of airport facilites.

During Mr. Bianco's visit, Vietnamese and French firms concluded a total of eight contracts, it was further said at the press conference.

One provides for an assembly point to be built in Vietnam by French automaker Citroen.

'Boat People' Repatriates Receive Job Training

BK2308075092 Hanoi VNA in English 0539 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23—The following is a report by Van Chuc, a correspendent of Vietnam Pictorial, carried in a recent issue :

We had the opportunity to attend the innauguration of the school for automobile and motorcycle repair, one of the four projects funded by JIVC, the Japan International Volunteers Association, destined for the "boat people" who volunteered to return from refugee camps abroad, and also for some youths in Haiphong city.

We were warmly greeted by an assembly of youths in blue working clothes printed with the words "Bach Dang Repair Workshop". The Haiphong authorities had founded a committee to assure their safe return and the distribution of the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] aid fund for their resettlement. In all, 5,604 persons have been repatriated that way in 67 batches and all have resettled in Haiphong. The UNHCR assistance notwithstanding, the Vietnamese Government has spent a lot of time and money on this humanitarian work which could have been spared if the seekers for a "promised land" abroad would have thought it better before they decided to go.

The number of "boat people" runs into the hundreds of thousands and they have arrived in different places in Southeast Asia. Among them more than 64,000 were kept in prison-like camps in Hong Kong by the end of 1991. Nearly 6,000 have volunteered to return to their native land and their request has been accepted. More applications are forthcoming.

Of all localities in North Vietnam, Haiphong has the largest number of returnees. Since their return they have been helped in many ways to quickly reintegrate themselves into the community.

We went to the Van Huong fishing village about five kilometres from the Do Son swimming resort. Of the 500 persons of this village who left by boat in 1990, 300 have come back. I had an interview with Hoang Thi Nu residing at 4 Hong Due Vuong Street. She, her husband and two children had made four attempts and only she and her two kids could make it to Hong Kong. Her husband was captured while trying to leave illegally. Mrs. Nu was kept at the Chi Ma Wan camp in Hong Kong. She later applied to return. With the UNHCR aid and remittances from her two children who live in Britain, she and her husband could start a new life making plastic containers for accumulators.

After about one year they could economize enough to build a small house.

Another returnee I met at the job training school was Do Van Hanh, a 16-year-old girl. I could not imagine such a frail and timid girl dared to flee abroad, taking along her 8-year-old sister.

"What made you so dared evil?" I asked her, she replied: "My friends told me it would take only seven days sitting on a cramped boat to reach Hong Kong." "And what happened?"

"Well, I was detained for four months on an island before being taken to the camp. I still shudder any time I recall those days."

"How many youths like you are there at the job training school?"

"180 in all including 108 repatriates".

"Is there any discriminition in the scholarship system?"

"Oh, no, you see, we are treated as equals".

I noticed a note of shame in her voice and realized at a bleeding wound in her soul. Let no one ever repeat that mistake of mine because all volunteer repatriates like Hanh would want never to be still referred to as a "repatriate".

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